FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 APRIL 1985

Lebanon

The Phalangist Lebanese Forces lost their last bastion around Sidon to the "Popular Liberation Forces" over the weekend and they were also driven out of all their remaining positions in the Iqlim al-Kharrub region by forces of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), Beirut radio reported. The radio said 45 Phalangists and 15 of their opponents were killed in the fighting. An Amal movement official cited by the radio stated that Amal's forces had "purged" areas east of Sidon up to the approaches of Kafr Falus, while the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio announced that the Druze forces had completed the "liberation" of Iqlim al-Kharrub from the Phalangists, who fled southeast to Jazzin and Marj 'Uyun. On the Christian side, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon stated that Palestinians were assisting the Shi'ite and Druze gunmen. The Muslim-Christian tension also spread to Beirut, where clashes erupted on 28 April and 20 people were wounded when a force in the eastern area tried unsuccessfully to penetrate the western sector, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, the Phalangist Party and Lebanese Forces agreed to establish a joint emergency committee and a unified military command to confront the current crisis, Radio Free Lebanon announced.

Jerusalem radio broadcast an official statement that the withdrawal was underway, citing an IDF announcement that the IDF will henceforth be deployed within the security zone until the completion of the redeployment. As for Israel's attitude toward a possible Muslim assault on the Christians in Jazzin, IDF Major General Ori Or stated that the IDF will not reenter Jazzin to defend the Christians, though he predicted that the latter will prove capable of defending the town, Jerusalem radio reported. Israel is providing the Christian refugees with emergency relief supplies, the radio noted.

Sudan

Transitional Military Council (TMC) Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab granted general amnesty to all armed opponents of the former regime and announced a unilateral cease-fire by government forces in the south in a 26 April communique reported by SUNA. The amnesty move was seen as a "face-saving device" to comply with a demand by the "free officers" in the Sudanese Army to release officers detained by the government, the clandestine Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) radio maintained. SPLA leader Colonel John Garang subsequently accepted the "free officers'" request to be their leader, an SPLA spokesman told the radio. Prime Minister Al-Jazuli Daf'allah, in a news conference reported by MENA, contended that Garang's radio statements are more "lenient," but that the government will not send an "official delegation" for talks with him until a channel for dialogue is open, adding that the trade unionist grouping is sending representatives to meet Garang.

In other political developments, the TMC chairman met with the Sudanese Communist Party secretary general, while the Popular Resistance Front has decided to return to Sudan to participate in the "reconstruction process," SUNA disclosed. Mena noted the Republican Brotherhood Movement resumed its activities in Sudan after suspending them when its leader was executed 2 months ago.

As for foreign relations, Siwar al-Dhahab said the TMC delegation's visit to Ethiopia "opened a new page in bilateral relations and removed misunderstanding" created by the previous regime, SUNA revealed.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force launched another raid on Gulf shipping 27 April, "accurately" hitting a "large maritime target" near Khark Island, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio. However, the Iraqi Air Force commander denied IRNA's claim that Iraqi warplanes overflew Tehran and Esfahan the previous evening, INA noted.

On the diplomatic level, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Tehran radio welcomed the UN Security Council's statement condemning the renewed use of chemical weapons against Iranian soldiers as a "positive step toward a realistic identification of the problem involved" in the war. However, the spokesman criticized the UN statement's "vagueness" in its failure to directly blame Iraq. For the latter's part, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said that despite "reservations" about certain parts of the UN statement, Iraq accepts it if taken as a whole and if Iran openly accepts the UN call for an immediate cease-fire, INA reported.

Murphy Tour

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Richard Murphy told Israeli officials on 26 April that he has achieved no results from his talks in Arab capitals on the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, Jerusalem radio reported. Murphy held talks with Jordanian King Husayn in Aqaba the following day, PETRA-JNA noted, and he left the region on 28 April after visiting Cairo, according to MENA.

In another development, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat denied that the PLO has agreed to Murphy's proposal for non-PLO Palestinians to participate in a dialogue with the United States, and he reaffirmed the PLO's demand to be directly involved in such negotiations, AFP reported. 'Arafat's statement on 26 April was in contrast to remarks by his adviser Hani al-Hasan, who told Radio Monte Carlo that the PLO "agrees" to the participation of non-PLO Palestinian "personalities" as suggested by Murphy. Noting that the U.S. offer would allow the PLO to choose the Palestinians involved on condition

they do not announce that they represent the PLO, Al-Hasan viewed this as "progress" which has been overlooked by some pessimistic Palestinians who are behaving "as if they have been defeated."

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad received visiting Bulgarian State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov on 28 April, Damascus radio reported. Meanwhile, Syria and the Soviet Union signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement on 26 April whereby Soviet aid to Syria during the next 5 years will constitute the largest credit in the history of Soviet-Syrian relations, Moscow radio disclosed.

Saudi Arabia

Conscription for military service has reached a very advanced stage and will be implemented as soon as plans have been finalized, Deputy Defense and Aviation Minister Prince 'Abd al-Rahman stated in a press interview reported by SPA on 27 April.

Algeria

Algiers police used tear gas to disperse a 26 April demonstration by Casbah residents protesting lack of security and shortage of water, Rabat radio reported citing AFP. An Algiers District Council communique broadcast by Algiers radio acknowledged that "incidents have occurred" in the Casbah, asserting that they were provoked by "agitators and other irresponsible persons."

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AFP: PLO Agrees to U.S. Proposal on Dialogue

NC261847 Paris AFP in English 1839 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Amman, April 26 (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has agreed to a U.S. proposal to open a dialogue between Jordan, the United States and non-PLO Palestinians, Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, said here today. Mr al-Hasan said the PLO had agreed to a proposal from U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy for the dialogue at which the Palestinians would be selected by the PLO, but would "not state they represent" the PLO. Speaking on Radio Monte Carlo's Middle East-oriented station, "Somera", Mr al-Hasan said this was a new proposal from the United States and a "positive development."

Mr. Murphy is due here tomorrow to study the composition of a possible joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation for a dialogue with the United States. The PLO and Jordan decided on a joint approach to the Palestinian question last February.

'Arafat Denies Proposal Agreement

NC262034 Paris AFP in English 2031 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Manama, April 26 (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today denied that the PLO had agreed to a U.S. proposal for a dialogue between Jordan, the United States and non-PLO Palestinians.

Earlier, Mr 'Arafat's political adviser, Hani al-Hasan, said the PLO had agreed to a proposal from the U.S. assistant secretary of state for the Middle East, Richard Murphy, in which the Palestinians at the parlays would be selected by the PLO, but would "not state they represent" the PLO. But in Bahrain, within hours of Mr al-Hasan's remarks on Monte Carlo's Middle East-orientated station, Somera, Mr 'Arafat issued a strict denial that the PLO had made any such agreement.

The PLO response, handed to Mr Murphy on April 16 by a group of Palestinians living in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, stressed the PLO line that "the way to peace is via direct negotiations with the PLO," which was "the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people," Mr 'Arafat said. Mr 'Arafat made the statement after meeting here with Palestinians living in Bahrain.

Fatah Official Issues Denial

GF271512 Doha QNA in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Apr (QNA) — Rafiq al-Natshah, Fatah Central Committee member and PLO representative in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has reported that the Palestinian leadership rejected the proposals of Richard Murphy, U.S. special envoy to the Middle East, and regarded them as bypassing Palestinian legitimacy.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Riyadh, Al-Natshah ruled out any progress in the U.S. policy toward the Palestinian issue or any attainment of U.S. recognition of legitimate Palestinian rights. He said that the Palestinian people have only one choice which is armed struggle in order to recoup their usurped national rights. Al-Natshah added that the Palestinian leadership charged a delegation from its members to leave for the Jordanian capital to apprise Jordanian officials on its full rejection of the Murphy proposals.

Fatah's Hani al-Hasan Monte Carlo Interview

JN262135 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1935 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Interview with Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat,by Antoine Nawfal, Radio Monte Carlo news director, on the weekly "It Happened Tomorrow" program; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Nawfal] Brother Hani al-Hasan, we welcome you to the "It Happened Tomorrow" program. Allow me to choose from your many titles that of political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat. Today's program is devoted to U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's tour. In light of the statements by Yasir 'Arafat and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], it has become clear that Murphy offered nothing to the PLO. You accompanied 'Arafat to Amman and to Baghdad, then you conveyed the results of the Palestinian meetings in Baghdad to Amman. Therefore, you know much about what took place. How do you judge Murphy's tour, and, specifically, its relationship with the Palestinian cause?

[Al-Hasan] In reality, Murphy's current tour of the region has been preceded by some kind of introduction in terms of consultations between Jordan and the U.S. Administration. In fact, we must be objective, and when we achieve any progress, we must not behave by rejecting such progress. The U.S. Administration, whose constant stand has been that it is inevitable that UN Resolution No 242 will be recognized as a condition for a direct official dialogue with the PLO, in accordance with the offer Kissinger had arranged in the Congress, this time submitted a replacement offer. This offer states that Murphy is ready to meet with a Jordanian-Palestinian group in which the Palestinians will be chosen by the PLO undeclared [word in English] on condition that they do not announce that they represent the PLO.

[Nawfal] And you consider this as progress? It seems that Abu Iyad does not consider this as progress?

[Al-Hasan] In fact, this is progress, but it is not sufficient in my opinion, because the second part of the offer says that this meeting, which is unofficial, is to seek constructive and energetic ideas to stimulate the peace process. What is constructive and can be considered progress in this matter is that the United States has begun a move with the PLO, even with some reservations, -- the PLO that Shultz said 1 year ago was being buried in Tripoli. This is the organization whom everyone believed had been terminated. One of the results of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is that we once again have become the basic part of events, to such a degree that made Murphy start submitting offers. It is true that they are not sufficient. We have insisted on the need to develop this U.S. offer. We do not agree to have the Untied States deal with us with reservations, as well as with our insistence to reach a formula for an understanding with the United States.

[Nawfal] Brother Hani, let us clarify matters. The U.S. side, that is Murphy, proposed the participation of Palestinian personalities, as I understood from you, which do not belong to the PLO and which do not claim that they belong to the PLO. Is this true?

[Al-Hassan] Yes, he called them personalities which will not announce that they have come in the PLO's name.

[Nawfal] Will the PLO agree to these personalities?
[Al-Hasan] The PLO agrees to these personalities.

[Nawfal] What you have said is very important. It is the first encouraging talk that has been made by a Palestinian side in this regard.

[Al-Hasan] I would like to clarify these points. Some refuse to accept the fact that the Palestinian is achieving progress. Some are behaving as if they have been defeated in a stage whose outcome has not yet been settled. We have started to regain the military and political initiative.

[Nawfal] Whom do you have in mind when you say that some refuse prorgess?

[Al-Hasan] What I mean by this is that there is a trend among Palestinian circles which only speaks with pessimism while the reality is that the PLO, which was supposed to wither away and be done with, has now started to rise. It is true that we are rising from the debris, through the martyrs, and through the sacrifices we offered either on the front of the enemy or the front of the brothers. What is important is that we have risen.

[Nawfal] I would like to ask you a question. Why did the abortive suicide operation coincide with the presence of the U.S. envoy [in the region]? Some people view it as a suicidal political operation more than a suicidal guerrilla operation.

[Al-Hasan] As you know, we in Fatah believe in a rule, namely, what armed struggle plants, political struggle reaps. He who does not plant will not reap and he who plants and refuses to reap is a criminal. We believe that without armed action we will not achieve political progress. This operation, which had been prepared for a long time and was aimed at the Israeli Defense Ministry, has led to a clash with the Israelis. It is true that it did not achieve its goal, namely, the Israeli Defense Ministry. What is important is that there is armed struggle and that we have begun to prepare ourselves for an armed confrontation with the Israelis in all arenas. In fact, it is not political suicide, but it is aimed at proving to Murphy that the Palestinian rifle will continue to fight and that negotiations do not mean halting the armed struggle.

[Nawfal] But you have given Israel a pretext that you do not want peace. This is what the Israelis are saying.

[Al-Hasan] This Israeli pretext was undermined a long time ago. By fighting, struggle, and by our steafastness in Beirut, we get 150,000 Israelis to demonstrate in Tel Aviv and say it is enough. If it were not for our steadfastness and our sacrifices, then the Israelis' psychological and mental situation would not have changed. The Israelis should know that they will hold negotiations only with a strong PLO, because we can achieve victory for the Palestinians through armed struggle.

[Nawfal] Does this mean that armed struggle will continue?
[Al-Hasan] This cannot be a subject of discussion. There are some facts that everybody should acknowledge. We do not beg for peace, but we do deserve a homeland.

[Nawfal] You have just mentioned Beirut and steafastness in Beirut. What is you situation in Beirut today?
[Al-Hasan] Regarding the Palestinian situation, I can say that where there are camps, there is progress. It has been proved that all of the Israeli goals, including the destruction of the PLO's structure in Lebanon, have failed. We are in a position of self-defense in Beirut, in Sidon, and in the camps of the south, and our goal is to protect the Palestinian camps and participate in armed struggle against the Israeli presence in southern Lebanon.

[Nawfal] Let me return to Murphy's tour and the U.S. attempts. Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has been expected to return to Amman from Baghdad. Why did he not do that?

[Al-Hasan] I talked to Abu 'Ammar today, and relations between us and Jordan are excellent. Our brothers in Jordan, especially Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, have understood the results of our meeting in Baghdad. Now they will hold consultations with the Americans on the basis of the PLO's position that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative and that dealing with it should be clear. Therefore, there is no need for Brother Abu 'Ammar to travel to Amman. Maybe there will be a need after 1 week for listening to the results of Jordan's contacts with the Americans.

[Nawfal] What is your situation now regarding the USSR and USSR President Gorbachev? Do you believe that Moscow can influence Syria, which seems to want to destroy Abu 'Ammar and his supporters politically, and, maybe, finally?

[Al-Hasan] In fact, since the new Soviet leader came [to power], we have felt a special concern for the PLO by the USSR. It is correct that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement made Moscw and a number of Arab countries ask us questions. However, we began a round of unannounced talks with the USSR. About 2 weeks ago, a message from Brother Abu 'Ammar was sent [to the USSR] on the latest results of the talks. I believe that, at the beginning of next month, we will have an important round of talks with the USSR. We cannot relinquish our relationship with the USSR. Al-Haj Amin al-Husayni commited a grave mistake in 1945. When an international conference was held to divide the world, Al-Husayni did not have a representative or an ally at the table. Today, we are living a new stage of Yalta. This stage may begin with the coming meeting between the president of the USSR and U.S. President Reagan. Our representative in the new Yalta is the USSR, because its interest is to establish a Palestinian state.

It is correct that the agreement prompted some questions by the USSR. In my opinion, these question represent the positive points in the agreement. These questions made us begin serious discussions to draw up a common concept of the future with the USSR.

Some parties are calling for an international conference. We are one of those parties. The PLO decided this in its PNC. The question is: Will we be members in the international conference if a call for a Geneva Confernece is addressed within 1 week, 1 month, or months? We, in fact, are not members. Therefore, we must reach a concept on how we can become members of the coming international conference, which I personally believe will inevitably take place. It is not necessary for the conference to be held around a table. The U.S.-USSR talks are in a way the beginning of some kind of an international conference. The question is: Will the USSR guarantee for us, through clear agreements between us and the USSR, that we can become members of an international conference? If this is guaranteed, there is no doubt that Palestinian policy will be in a position to achieve complete coordination with the USSR.

[Nawfal] Are you in full agreement with Amman regarding this point?
[Al-Hasan] Yes. This is one of the important strides that took place in the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, especially with the new cabinet, although you know that the king in Jordan is the policymaker. However, the important thing is that we agreed on three points: no direct negotiations with the Israelis, no move to solve the Middle East issue without the USSR, and the Amman agreement being our joint understanding and the mechanism of implementing the Fes summit [resolutions]. An invitation has been addressed to the Jordanian foreign minister to visit the USSR. On the table of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, there is a request from Jordan and the PLO to receive a Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation which represents the Jordanian Government and the PLO Executive Committee.

[Nawfal] You reject direct negotiations with Israel, but U.S. Secretary of State Shultz rejects negotiations with the Palestinian side unless this side recognizes Israel and unless negotiations by the Palestinian side and the Arab side are direct. He also says that without such negotiations, there will be no solution. How can you reconcile what you say and the progress that has been made by Murphy's tour?

[Al-Hasan] Of course, there are U.S. attempts to hold negotiations with the PLO at gunpoint. But I am confident that Shultz knows that such a time has passed away and that the United States knows that an international conference is necessary in order to discuss all issues. Can Shultz explain why he formed a committee with the Soviet Union to discuss the Middle East issue, Afghanistan, and the Iraq-Iran war? The task of the revolution is to extract positions. Just as we have extracted a U.S. recognition of the Palestinian people and of the fact that the Palestinians should be a side in any negotiations on the Middle East, we should also extract a U.S. position during the next few months against direct negotiations on the Palestine question, because direct negotiations will constitute a formula similar to that of Camp David and because the balance of power will be in the interests of Israel and the United States in such negotiations -- a fact that we will never accept. This is the battle that is raging today, and the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement has enabled the Palestinians to enter the political workshop, and we expect, God willing, a good workshop for military action. Therefore, I hope that I will meet with you in this program after several months to talk about a U.S. retreat. The United States knows that if it does not make such concessions, its situation in the region will not be as it wishes.

[Nawfal] Do your statements express a unified opinion within the Palestinian ranks under Yasir 'Arafat?
[Al-Hasan] I can assure you that we are in agreement on essentials. The minutes of our recent meeting in Baghdad say that all of us have approved the Amman agreement, and that our Jordanian-Palestinian joint understanding is also unanimous. But the problem begins with ways to run the conflict. Some people fear that this step will make us lose the Soviet Union.

[Nawfal] I mean your optimism about the U.S. role. Does this optimism express a unified position within the PLO under Yasir 'Arafat?

[Al-Hasan] In fact, some people say there is no use, and that the Americans will not change. Usually there are two opinions in Palestinian circles, but what I understand of the two giants' meeting and of facts on the ground, is that the United States is unable to impose realities on the ground, the United States has been defeated in Lebanon, and its armed tool, Israel, is also suffering from a defeat in the region. Therefore, the United States cannot impose realities by force in the region.

[Nawfal] Therefore, you are wagering on a possible change in the U.S. position, and we will see the results after several months as you said during our program "It Happened Tomorrow." Thank you, Brother Hani al-Hasan.

[Al-Hasan] Thank you.

Reaction to Interview

JN271417 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Yesterday, Hani al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's adviser, affirmed in an interview with our radio during the "It Happened Tomorrow" program that the PLO agreed on a U.S. proposal regarding the formation of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that will negotiate with the United States. Hani al-Hasan announced that the proposal stipulates that the Palestinian delegation will comprise Palestinians whom the PLO will choose on condition that they do not declare their affiliation with the PLO.

As expected, reactions to Hani al-Hasan's statements began to arrive. Foremost of these reactions were the ones issued today by the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP].

Denying today Palestinian involvement in the events of Sidon, southern Lebanon, the PFLP asserted that Hani al-Hasan's statements clearly expose the concession-making game. The PFLP said that these statements will put all Fatah's commands and leaders, who announced their rejection of the Amman agreement and the Murphy proposals, to the test. If these leaders are telling the truth, then they have to translate their stands into practical measures, otherwise they are merely playing the game of distributing roles.

The DFLP also issued a statement saying: While 'Arafat is throwing himself completely into the arms of Amman and Cairo and becoming involved in the schemes that will lead to the liquidation of the Palestine question, the DFLP announces that it will continue to adopt its independent, unifying policy, and expose the deception policy that the reactionary axes are based on and the one that 'Arafat is practicing. At the same time, Hani al-Hasan's statements to Radio Monte Carlo affirm the acceptance of the U.S. conditions that Murphy conveyed. They also affirm the involvement of some defeatist rightist leaderships in forging the Palestinian people's will.

KUNA: 'Arafat Warns of New Massacres in Camps
LD271222 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0908 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Apr (KUNA) — Chairman of the PLO Yasir 'Arafat warned against new massacres in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. He stressed that the Palestinian camps are still (words indistinct) he warned against the emergence of a sectarian state in Lebanon and against a "Camp Murphy" plan.

In an interview with *AL-SIYASAH* published today, he said that "our camps are now under siege and they are threatening a new massacre similar to that of Sabra and Shatila. They are demanding the non-return of the Palestinian fighters to Lebanon and are demanding that the Israeli borders are made secure against the Palestinian forces — these two demands are within the Camp Murphy agreement."

He pointed out that the Palestinian camps last week were exposed to operations of violation and disruption by the Israeli forces, which arrested 850 Palestinians and removed them to the occupied land. Moreover, the Palestinian camps in Sidon are facing a separatist attack by Ja'ja' and Lahd's forces which are backed by Israel, "and this is the 2d month in which the camps are facing such attacks. As a result of this 50 percent of 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp has been destroyed for the second time and 77 percent of the other camps have been destroyed."

'Arafat once again denied that the Palestinians are connected with the clashes which recently took place between the fighters of the Amal movement and the Socialist Party on one side, and the Murabitun forces on the other. He said: "We did not interfere in these clashes because they are sectarian."

The Palestinian leader called for the necessary halt to "sectarian cancer" in Lebanon. He pointed out that some Arab sides are executing an American-Israeli plot. He warned that the spread of this sectarian cancer in Lebanon will not stop at Lebanon's border, but will extend to other Arab regions.

He stressed that the American anti-Arab stance will not change "unless the Arab stance is changed from a begging stance to one of asserting [Arab] presence." He pointed out that in order to cause "a shock" in Arab conditions, to change and correct their path, the Iraq-Iran war must be stopped and Egypt must return [to the Arab fold] to take its leading role in the body of the Arab nations remote from the policy of Camp David, and that this sectarian cancer in Lebanon must be halted.

In this connection he underlined the failure of the mission of the American Envoy Richard Murphy in finding an alternative for the PLO. He said: "The failure came by their own admission in Murphy's own words, who stressed the impossibility of jumping over and bypassing the PLO in representing the Palestinians in any forthcoming negotiations."

He expressed his readiness to agree to the establishment of a Palestinian state on any part of the Palestinian territory which will be liberated or from the territory from which Israel will withdraw," and this was approved by the PNC in its 12th session in Cairo in 1974, and was approved by the Arab Fes summit."

'Arafat stressed that in the Arab arena he actually possesses forceful political cards, and that these cards have proved their existence inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territory, in Lebanon, on the land and on the sea; hence, "Israel will have no secure borders in the region without recognizing the right to self-determination for the Palestinian people."

He pointed out that the organization was serious in searching for a just solution for the Palestinian question at a time when the United States used to reject these balanced solutions for the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian question; hence, "at the same time, we were waging major military contacts on more than one side to affirm our slogan in calling for peace while we were holding the rifle."

Concerning the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement made public last September, the Palestinian leader said that it is a twin of the basic political formula of the organization, which confirms the importance of achieving a just solution, ending Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, Golan and the Palestinian land, by means of an international conference through the United Nations, to be attended by the member states, including the PLO, on an equal footing.

He mentioned that he also agreed with the king of Jordan to "do what we can to confront the situation inside our occupied territory, especially in the face of the continuing confiscation of Arab lands, the Judaization of the holy places, and the Israeli repressive and terrorist operations."

Regarding the attitude of the PLO to the formation of some forces and alliances in the Arab region, 'Arafat told *AL-SIYASAH* "that the PLO's attitude will be with these forces being formed in the Arab region with the exception of the Syrian and Libyan regimes."

'Arafat placed the responsibility on Syria for what recently happened in Beirut. He said with regard to the recent happening in the Lebanese capital, it is my view "that it is a Syrian operation" carried out by a Syrian decision to strike the Muslims in Beirut, and it is not by chance that Hezbollah, which is basically a part of the Amal party, and which is actually carrying out fedayeen operations with "our Palestinian revolutionaries in the south, declared that it is against what had happened."

He pointed out that the United States and Israel have failed in their aim, which sought to strike at the foundation structure of the organization and to finally liquidate it. He said Israel had

failed and America had failed in carrying out this aim, the Israeli Army is withdrawing under the blows of the Palestinian-Lebanese resistance in the south, and Murphy is saying we failed in finding an alternative to the PLO.

Regarding Egyptian-Palestinian relations, 'Arafat explained that contacts between Egypt and the PLO are continuing and expanding to cover more than one level, and at the same time he wished that "Egypt would take its effective role in the Arab arena."

At the end of his interview with *AL-SIYASAH* 'Arafat refused to confirm predictions about the possibility of his visit to Moscow in the near future, and he praised the Soviet stance regarding the Palestinian question.

Palestinian Commander in Southern Lebanon Killed

JN262008 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Tunis, 26 Apr (INA) — The Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command and Al-Sa'iqah Forces General Command have mourned the death of martyr Salim Darbasani, also known as Abu Nidal, commander of the central sector of southern Lebanon, who was assassinated by a criminal agent in the Al-Qasimiyah area of southern Lebanon the day before yesterday. A statement issued by the two commands here today said that the PLO and its masses pledge to martyr Abu Nidal and all the other martyrs in the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces and the Palestinian revolution forces to continue armed struggle to foil the plots of the enemies, the U.S. and Israeli agents in Lebanon, and to continue that armed struggle across all borders for the sake of liberating Palestine and all occupied Arab lands.

PLO Issues Statement

LD271527 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Tunis, 27 Apr (TAP) — The PLO has affirmed its determination to continue the armed struggle across all borders in order to liberate Palestine and all the occupied Arab territories, stressing that the revolutionary gun of the fighters will continue to attack in order to foil the plots of the enemies, the agents of America and Israel in Lebanon. This was contained in a statement issued by the General Command of the Palestine revolution forces and Al-Sa'iqah forces yesterday evening in Tunis following the Martyrdom of Lieutenant Colonel Rafiq Salim Darbasani, alias Abu Nidal, who was assassinated at dawn last Wednesday in the Al-'Itaniyah quarter, near Al-Qasimiyah in southern Lebanon.

The statement said that the assassination of Abu Nidal, who was the commander of the central sector of southern Lebanon and who was considered to be one of the most prominent commanders of the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces, happened at a time when the PLO and its heroic masses in southern Lebanon have fought most valiant battles against the campaigns of annihilation and liquidation waged by the Zionist enemy and its isolationist agents against the Palestinian camps in the areas of Tyre and Sidon, side by side with the national Lebanese and Islamic forces.

The statement, circulated by WAFA, pointed out that the martyr Abu Nidal joined Fatah in 1966. He had his military education in the PRC and the USSR and assumed leadership of the central sector in southern Lebanon in 1983. He took an active part in commanding the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces and supervised the heroic operations carried out against the Israeli invasion forces and the agent fascist forces in southern Lebanon until the day of his assassination.

PLO Statement on Air Raids on Palestinian Camps

GF271952 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 27 Apr 85

["Text" of PLO press statement on air attacks on Palestinian camps in Lebanon — date, place not given]

[Text] The Zionist-isolationist enemy escalated on the day before yesterday, Thursday, the intensity of its military offensive on 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camps, using its Air Force for the first time. The enemy bombed the camps which have been devastated by the artillery of the Zionist-isolationist enemy, and killed most of their inhabitants or drove them from their homes.

At 1800, Beirut time, on Thursday, military planes attacked 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp, using rockets and heavy machineguns in order to destroy what was left of the camp, and in a desperate attempt to give cover to the infiltration operations which were carried out by the isolationist forces in the direction of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camps. The antiaircraft units of the joint forces confronted the raiding planes and forced them to flee. At the same time, the joint forces and the nationalist and Islamic forces were able to repulse the infiltration attempts which were carried out by the isolationist forces on the axes of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah after they fought heroic confrontation battles in defense of the two camps, and pursued the remnants of the infiltrators who left their losses behind and fled. The joint forces, and the nationalist and Islamic Lebanese forces were able to purge numerous positions and hills, which the isolationist forces and occupied, and used as artillery redoubts and for criminal operations against Sidon and the camps.

The PLO regards the Zionist-isolationist forces use of the air force against the devastated camps a serious indication of prolonging the extermination war which the Zionist-isolationist enemy wages to wipe out totally the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon as they did to the Palestinian camps in the area of east Beirut in 1976. The allegations of the isolationist forces regarding withdrawal from some positions around Sidon and the camps are merely a deception carried out by the fascist isolationist forces to cover up the operations of replacing the forces which have so far failed in driving out the spirit of steadfastness and resistance, and the heroic defense which the joint forces, together with the nationalist and Islamic forces, demonstrate in defense of heroic Sidon and the proud Palestinian camps in confrontation of the conspiracy of sectarian partitioning and balkanization.

GULF AFFAIRS

Jordanian Crown Prince Arrives for GCC Seminar

LD290853 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0830 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Riyadh, 29 Apr (SPA) — His Highness Prince Hasan ibn Talal, crown prince of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, arrived in Riyadh this morning to attend the meetings of the Arab seminar which will begin today at the invitation of the General Secretariat of the GCC.

Leading those who welcomed him at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, heir apparent, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives Message From Siwar al-Dhahab

GF271902 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1750 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 27 Apr (WAKH) — Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has received a written message from Lieutenant General Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council [TMC], pertaining to recent developments in Sudan. The message was conveyed by Brigadier 'Uthman 'Abdallah, member of the TMC and defense minister, during an audience with His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah in Manama today.

The Sudanese envoy apprised his highness the amir on current developments in Sudan, asserting to his highness that the situation in Sudan is stable. His highness the amir indicated that Bahrain's amir, government and people wish Sudan prosperity, stability and progress under the new Sudanese leadership. The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Housing Minister Shaykh Khalid ibn 'Abdallah Al Khalifah, and the delegation accompanying the Sudanese delegation.

It is noteworthy that the Sudanese envoy is currently paying a tour to a number of the region countries. His tour has so far covered the states of Kuwait and Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Sudanese Defense Minister Issues Statement, Departs

LD271642 Kuwait KUNA in English 1610 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 27 (KUNA) — Sudanese Defense Minister Brig 'Uthman 'Abdallah left Kuwait after a short visit during which he delivered a message form Sudan's military leader 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab to H.H. the amir. The Sudanese minister, who is also member of the ruling 15-man Military Council, was seen off at the airport by Kuwait Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah.

Brig 'Abdallah told KUNA before departure the message dealt with ways to bolster fraternal relations between Kuwait and Sudan, adding that he briefed H.H. the amir on the developments in Sudan "that led to the overthrow of former President Ja'far Numayri and the establishment of a democratic system."

The minister who arrived here earlier in the day praised Kuwaiti aid to Sudan's development. He said he will be visiting Qatar, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, the two Yemens, Somalia and Djibouti to deliver messages from Siwal al-Dhahab to their heads of state.

Saudi Military Chief, Delegation Arrive

LD291249 Kuwait KUNA in English 1142 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 29 (KUNA) — Saudi Chief of Staff General Mohammed Salih al-Hamad, accompanied by a high-ranking military delegation, arrived here Monday on a three-day official visit to Kuwait. The Saudi official was received at the airport by chief of staff of Kuwait Armed Forces, Major General 'Abdallah Faraj al-Ghanim and the Saudi charge d'affaires in Kuwait in addition to senior Kuwaiti Army officers.

General al-Hamad told KUNA upon arrival that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are linked by strong ties and that his visit to Kuwait is a friendly one within the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council states officials exchanged and continuous visits. [Sentence as received]

The Saudi military delegation is scheduled to be received Wednesday by H.H. the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah and H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al- 'Abdallah al-Sabah.

The delegation will Tuesday visit a paratroopers camp here and will hold official talks with Kuwaiti military officials on the same day. They will visit Ahmad al-Jabir Air Base on Wednesday.

QATAR

Sudan's Defense Minister Delivers Message to Amir

GF281130 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from his brother Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council [TMC] and commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces.

The message was conveyed by Brigadier 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad, member of the TMC and defense minister, and the delegation accompanying him during meeting with his highness the amir at Doha Palace at 1030 today. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister; Khalid ibn 'Abdallah al-'Atiyah, minister of public works; and Ahmad al-Tayyib al-Kurdufani, Sudanese ambassador in Doha.

QNA has learned that the message deals with the current stage in Sudan, the latest developments there, and the plans of the new leadership to continue to consolidate the existing fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries.

Meets Chief of Staff

GF281132 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Chief of Staff Staff Colonel Shaykh Mubarak ibn 'Abd al-Rahman Al Thani met at Army Headquarters this morning with Brigadier 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad, member of the TMC and Sudanese defense minister, and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by senior officers of the Qatari Armed Forces and Ahmad al-Tayyib al-Kurdufani, Sudanese ambassador in Doha.

The Sudanese defense minister and the delegation accompanying him left Doha this afternoon after a short visit to Qatar. He was seen off by Khalid ibn 'Abdallah al-'Atiyah, minister of public works; Staff Colonel Shaykh Mubarak ibn 'Abd al-Rahman Al Thani, chief of staff; and Ahmad al-Tayyib al-Kurdufani, Sudanese ambassador in Doha.

SAUDI ARABIA

Deputy Defense Minister on Conscription Plans

LD271351 Riyadh SPA in English 1240 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Riyadh, April 27, (SPA) — Military conscription has reached a very advanced stage and will be implemented in Saudi Arabia as soon as plans have been finalised, Prince 'Abd al-Rahman, Saudi deputy defence and aviation minister, has said.

In an interview with the Jeddah-based *ARAB NEWS* published today, he termed military conscription as the service of the flag.

Asked when exactly it will be introduced, Prince 'Abd al-Rahman said, "We will not anticipate things before the objectives and aims behind it are completed."

He described "tendentious" claims that Saudi Arabia lacked qualified personnel to operate all its military equipment.

Prince 'Abd al-Rahman said the Kingdom's consistent policy is to only purchase arms when adequate training for Saudi personnel is provided in the country of origin, "so that when weapons arrive in the Kingdom, there are enough trained crews to use them."

Prince 'Abd al-Rahman said implementation work on his ministry's Peace Shield project will start in 1986 to cover such areas as the aviation industry, electricity, electronics, engines for civil and military aircraft, computers and others.

He said the surplus production in this sphere, will be exported to other states.

Reportage on Visit of French Foreign Minister

Arrives in Riyadh 27 Apr

LD271052 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Riyadh, 27 April (SPA) — French Minister for External Relations Roland Dumas arrived here today on a visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed at the airport by the Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal; the head of the Arab desk at the Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Ma'mun Qabbani; Chief of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry, 'Isa al-Nuwaysir; Saudi Ambassador to France Jamil al-Hujaylan; and French Ambassador to the Kingdom Pierre Rocalve.

Talks Begin

LD271321 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Saudi-French talks began at the Foreign Ministry here at noon today under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and French Minister for External Relations Roland Dumas.

On the Saudi side the meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Rahman Mansuri, undersecretary of the Saudi Foreign Ministry; Ma'mun Qabbani, head of the Western desk at the Foreign Ministry; Ma'mun Kurdi, head of the economic desk at the Foreign Ministry; and Saudi Ambassador to France Jamil Hujaylan. On the French side, the meeting was attended by the delegation accompanying the French minister and by French Ambassador to the Kingdom Pierre Rocalve.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations and current developments in the region.

Dumas expressed his pleasure at visiting the Kingdom and described relations between France and the Kingdom as very good. The French minister added that the Saudi-French talks covered relations between the two countries and all matters of interest to both sides.

Concludes Visit

LD280810 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0730 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh 28 Apr (SPA) — The French Minister of External Relations Roland Dumas, left Riyadh this morning after a 1-day visit to the Kingdom during which he had talks with His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the minister of foreign affairs.

The French foreign minister described his talks with officials in the Kingdom as excellent and said they took place in an atmosphere of deep friendship and great frankness. He noted in a statement to SPA before his departure that his talks in the Kingdom dealt with all matters concerning relations between the Kingdom and France. They also dealt with all the international problems and issues in general, and the issues of the region in particular.

Mr Roland Dumas affirmed his country's desire to develop the current cooperation between the two countries and he expressed his thanks and appreciation to the officials for their welcome and hospitality.

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, expressed the appreciation of the Kingdom, its monarch, government, and people, for the great role which France is playing in the international arena in general, and in Europe in particular and specifically toward the issues of justice, fairness, and especially toward the Palestinian question.

His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in a similar statement to SPA said that the French foreign minister's talks in the Kingdom dealt with all the issues that concern the two countries as well as bilateral relations. The talks also dealt with a complete review of bilateral cooperation. His highness said regarding international issues the talks centered on the Middle East question, the Lebanese issue, and the Iraq-Iran war. He expressed the belief that the points of view were similar is not identical.

His highness the foreign minister concluded his statement by saying: I believe that the continuation of talks at the highest level must have a positive effect on the issues of the area and on cooperation between the two countries.

UAE

Syrian Parliamentary Delegation Departs 26 Apr

GF261035 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The Syrian People's Assembly delegation, led by Mahmud al-Zu'bi, speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly, left the UAE today at the end of a 6-day visit. During its stay the Syrian delegation held talks with Hilal Ahmad Lutah, speaker of the Federal National Council, and senior officials on strengthening bilateral relations, especially parliamentary relations. Al-Zu'bi lauded the UAE's achievements in the past years and the reconstruction taking place in the UAE. He expressed the hope that progress and prosperity will be attained in the UAE under the leadership of President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan.

The Syrian delegation was seen off at the airport by Hilal Lutah, Federal National Council chairman; members of the Federal National Council; and Muhammad Kabur, Syrian ambassador to the UAE.

Statement Issued on Visit

GF261037 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The Federal National Council and the Syrian People's Assembly have emphasized the importance of maintaining the security and stability of the Gulf region and the need to keep it free from foreign intervention, and emphasized that the security of the region is the responsibility of the states and peoples of the region.

A joint statement released in Abu Dhabi today on the results of the visit of the Syrian People's Assembly delegation, led by Mahmud al-Zu'bi, speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly, to the UAE and the talks held with Hilal Ahmad Lutah, chairman of the Federal National Council, condemned attempts to impose hegemony and the massing of foreign fleets in the waters of the region.

The two sides agreed on the need to mobilize all Arab efforts and resources to confront the Zionist enemy and the dangers threatening the Arab nation and the need to stress the role of Arab parliamentarians in strengthening Arab solidarity to confront the principal enemy of the Arab nation.

Sudanese Defense Minister Arrives 28 April

GF281338 Doha QNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 Apr (QNA) -- Brigadier 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad, member of the Transitional Military Council [TMC] and Sudanese defense minister, arrived in Abu Dhabi this afternoon on a 1-day visit to the UAE within his current tour of a number of the region's states.

During the visit the Sudanese defense minister will convey a written message to UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Sudanese TMC, dealing with the latest events in Sudan. The Sudanese minister also will meet with the Sudanese community in Abu Dhabi today to explain the (?situation) in Sudan and the role of Sudanese expatriates in supporting [words indistinct] and stability.

Sudan 'Stable'

GF281344 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1310 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 Apr (WAKH) -- Brigadier 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad, member of the TMC and Sudanese defense minister, has said that the current situation in Sudan has become stable, especially after the formation of the Cabinet and the return of normal life to all parts of Sudan.

In a statement on arrival in Abu Dhabi today, he added that the Sudanese people enjoy political awareness that could absorb all the consequences resulting from the political strike through voluntary labor and production in all sectors.

He said that the current situation in southern Sudan has become stable after the cease-fire and the granting general amnesty for all political detainees was warmly welcomed by the brothers in southern Sudan which led to the cessation of all military operations.

He said: We hope that the brothers in the north and the south will meet shortly to work side by side for constructing Sudan.

PDRY

Yemeni Supreme Council Session Ends 27 Apr

GF271208 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] The Secretariat of the Yemeni Supreme Council concluded its 10th session in Aden today under the chairmanship of Brothers Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, minister of state for unity affairs and head of the side of the southern part of the homeland; and Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs and head of the side of the northern part of the homeland.

The Secretariat reviewed a number of issues concerning the progress of unity coordination between the two Yemens, the results of the unity committees in the various fields, and the level of coordinating the previous decisions of the Yemeni Supreme Council and the joint ministerial committee of the two parts.

A press statement was issued at the conclusion of this session.

YAR Unity Delegation Departs

GF271736 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Excerpt] The delegation of the northern part of the homeland in the Secretariat of the Yemeni Supreme Council headed by Brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs, left Aden at noon today following the conclusion of the meetings of council's Secretariat in Aden this morning.

Press Statement Issued

GF271738 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Report on "press statement" issued by the 10th session of the Secretariat of the Yemeni Supreme Council held 24-27 April in Aden]

[Text] The Secretariat of the Yemeni Supreme Council held its 10th session from 24 to 27 April under the chairmanship of Brothers Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, minister of state for unity affairs and head of the side of the southern part of the homeland; and Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs and head of the side of the northern part of the homeland.

In a sincere and fraternal spirit the Secretariat reviewed in this session the standard of implementing the resolutions of the Yemeni Supreme Council and the joint ministerial committee of the two Yemens at their last two sessions which were held in Sanaa and Aden. The Secretariat also reviewed the progress of coordination between the two parts and the results of the unity committees in the various fields and in accordance with the unity agreements and the resolutions of the Yemeni Supreme Council.

After concluding its 10th session successfully and discussing the level of unity steps and achievements and after preparing a timetable for future meetings, including a number of visits and joint meetings between the officials in the two parts on the government level and on the level of the popular institutions, the Secretariat expresses extreme satisfaction with the results thus far due to the sincere efforts by the leaderships represented by Brothers Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress; and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, for the purpose of achieving the noble national objectives in restoring the unity of Yemen as a homeland and people.

The Secretariat will hold its forthcoming session in Sanaa in order to prepare for the third session of the joint ministerial committee.

YAR

Yemeni Supreme Council Delegation Returns From PDRY

GF271900 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Excerpt] The members of northern part in the Secretariat of the Yemeni Supreme Council under Brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs, returned to Sanaa today following their participation in the meetings of the 10th session of the Secretariat of the Yemeni Supreme Council, which was held from 24 to 27 April.

In a statement to SABA', the brother minister said that he is carrying a reply message to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, from his Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Commmittee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, in our southern sector. He described the results of the meetings of the 10th session of the Secretariat as successful and fruitful.

Reportage on Visit of PLO's Yasir 'Arafat

Arrives 27 Apr

GF270546 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Struggler Yasir 'Arafat [Abu 'Ammar], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Sanaa early today on a visit to the Republic that will last several days. During this visit, he will discuss with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, new developments on the Arab and international arenas.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Brother 'Arafat said he will discuss with the brother president current military and political developments on the Palestinian arena, particularly

the grave situation in Lebanon and the arbitrary barbaric shelling of Palestinian camps in 'Ayn al-Hulwah, Miyah Wa Miyah, and Beirut by the agent militias. He noted that the sectarian conflict which is taking place in Beirut between the brother comrades in arms in the same trench is regrettable and puts the Palestinian revolution in a very extreme situation.

Concluding, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: Together with Brother President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, we will reach a joint solution to these issues confronting our Arab region due to our knowledge of his enthusiasm not only for the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples but also for our Arab nation.

Brother Abu 'Ammar was received at the airport by Brother 'Abd al-Hamid al-Haddi, deputy minister of social affairs and labor and assistant secretary general of the Standing Committee; Major Dayfallah Shumaylah, commander of the Republican Guard and member of the Standing Committee; 'Abdallah Abu al-Hunud, PLO representative in Sanaa; a number of Palestinian revolution cadres; and a representative for presidential protocol.

Received by President

GF271906 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office at the presidential residence today Brother Struggler Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

During the meeting, they reviewed the latest developments in the Arab arena, and the situation on the Palestinian arena in particular, in addition to the relations of struggle between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions.

Brother 'Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] informed his brother president, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the conditions of the Arab Palestinian people inside the occupied territories and in Lebanon.

The brother leader president and secretary general affirmed our country's constant and absolute support for the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people for the sake of the victory of their just national rights of self-determination and to establish an independent state on their national soil under their sole, legitimate representative, the PLO.

Present at the meeting were the brothers 'Abd al-Hamid al-Haddi, deputy minister of social affairs and labor, and assistant secretary of the Standing Committee; 'Ali al-Anasi, director of the President's Office; Dayfallah Shumaylah, commander of the Republican Guard, and member of the Standing Committee; Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; 'Abdallah Abu al-Hunud, the PLO representative in Sanaa; and Lieutenant Colonel Abu Humayd, commander of the Sabra camp.

Departure Statement

GF271950 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Struggler Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, left Sanaa this evening after a short visit to the [redacted] during which he held talks with Brother Colonel 'Ali [redacted]dallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, on current issues and new events in the Arab and Palestinian arenas in particular.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY Brother Yasir 'Arafat said: I had a long session with the Brother President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih today in the presence of my brother Abu Jihad. We discussed a number of important issues concerning the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas. Regarding the Palestinian arena Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] pointed out that he briefed the brother leader president on the developments in the Palestinian arena inside and outside the occupied territories, including the results of the meetings of the Palestinian leadership held in Baghdad recently and the contacts being made in both the Arab and international arenas regarding all issues developments, opinions, and proposals concerning the Palestinian issue.

In his statement he said that the brother leader president expressed his support. He said that this is the permanent and constant position by the northern part of Yemen, by the president, government and people toward the just cause of the Palestinian people.

He was seen off at the airport by Brothers 'Abd al-Hamid al-Haji, deputy minister of social affairs and labor and assistant secretary of the Standing Committee; Major Faysal Husayn Shumaylah, commander of the Republican Guard and member of the Standing Committee; 'Abdallah Abu al-Khulud, PLO representative in Sanaa; Lieutenant Colonel Buhumayd, commander of the Sabra camp; a representative from the presidency protocol; and some Palestinian cadres.

Mubarak Interviewed on Tabah, Lebanon, Israel
NC271050 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Cairo, 27 Apr (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has emphasized that a solution to the Tabah issue and the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon are bound to give flexibility to moves toward solving the Palestinian problem. He also asserted that the Egyptian ambassador will not return to Israel and that he himself will not meet with the Israeli prime minister until the Tabah issue has been solved.

In an exclusive interview with Oman's *AL-WATAN*, President Mubarak dealt with the situation in Lebanon, saying that foreign forces are behind the regrettable events there. These forces, he noted, are settling their accounts in Lebanon. President Mubarak stated that the Lebanese are capable of sitting at a roundtable and solving their problems without foreign interference.

President Mubarak said that Egypt — its government and people — welcome the visit by His Majesty Sultan Qabus. He praised Oman's wise independent policy.

Regarding recent events in Sudan, President Mubarak affirmed that Egypt only wishes stability for that country. He added that Egypt supports all the steps taken by the Sudanese people.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, President Mubarak said that while Iraq is responding to all peace initiatives, the Iranian brothers are rejecting them.

On his recent visit to the United States, President Mubarak described it as one of his most successful trips.

President Mubarak began his interview with *AL-WATAN* by answering a question on Egyptian-Omani relations and the visit by His Majesty Sultan Qabus to Egypt. The president said: The relations that link the Sultanate of Oman with Egypt are strong and longstanding. This is not new. I have very strong fraternal relations with his majesty the sultan. I have met with him many times and exchanged views on various problems.

Replying to a question on how Egypt stands with regard to the Arab arena, especially considering the meeting which will be held between his excellency, His Majesty Sultan Qabus, and His Majesty King Husayn, and whether anything specific is expected to result from this meeting, such as an Arab summit conference, President Mubarak said: I believe that an Arab summit will only be vetoed by two Arab countries, known to the whole world. It is very regrettable that an Arab summit does not convene at a time when the Arab world needs such summits. There are countless problems in the Arab world requiring efforts by Arab foreign ministers and by Arab summit meetings to bring all views closer. Regrettably, however, I do not have any hope that an Arab summit will convene.

Replying to a question on the fate of the Egyptian initiative regarding the Iraq-Iran war, President Mubarak said that this initiative, like all those made by various international organizations and states, has come to nothing. Iraq responds, but our brothers in Iran do not want to do so, saying that they will not respond unless Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is removed from power. This is a very serious condition which we regard as interference in the internal affairs of others. The president of a state assumes power by the will and choice of the people. Therefore, how can we order the people to dismiss their president and put another in his place?

This is blatant interference in a state's internal affairs, the president repeated. President Mubarak then went on to say: Even President Saddam Husayn has no right to make a similar condition before negotiating with Iran. Should such a thing happen, I would also state that it is blatant interference.

What is regrettable is that all this is taking place between two Muslim states. This saddens us. Iraq is prepared to cease fire and halt the bloodshed. However, our brothers in Iran are not responding to this international appeal for an end to fighting which drains the state's resources and reduces the people's standard of living.

Asked how his excellency assesses the development of events in Lebanon, President Mubarak noted that the situation there is shrowded in fog. He wondered if the Lebanese parties are fighting each other without any foreign forces being present.

The president then said: What is more astonishing is that these forces are settling their scores in Lebanon by exploiting the conflicting Lebanese parties. Israel, the president added, will withdraw from Lebanon. He wished for calm to prevail throughout Lebanon.

President Mubarak expressed his fear that fighting will continue despite the Israeli withdrawal, noting that this will be due to foreign forces supporting the conflict. He said: This is the most dangerous situation Lebanon has encountered and it could lead to its complete destruction.

AL-WATAN then said: Mr President, permit us to say that what happened in Lebanon came after Israel's partial withdrawal.

The president stated: Regrettably, the fingerprints of foreign forces are clear. The president appealed to everyone not to intervene among the Lebanese parties. The Lebanese people themselves are capable of sitting around a table and resolving their problems without foreign interference.

AL-WATAN asked the president: Does your excellency believe that Siwar al-Dhahab can overcome the alarming situation in southern Sudan?

The president replied: I believe that Siwar al-Dhahab has started taking steps. He is making contacts in the south. He has carried out several changes and has issued decisions which we hope will succeed. We wish nothing but stability for Sudan. We wish stability and prosperity for the fraternal Sudanese people. The Sudanese people are the ones who choose their government and president. No one can in any way interfere with the desire and will of people.

Asked by the paper about 'Ezer Weizman's visit to Egypt and whether there has been any new development regarding the Tabah problem between Egypt and Israel, the president said: Our declared statements are clear. No visit will produce anything new. What we have, we announce with a loud voice. The Tabah problem is one of the existing problems between us and Israel. This problem must be sent for arbitration and a committee must be set up for this purpose. I believe that the Tabah problem is proceeding along its charted course. I earlier had announced that I will not meet with the Israeli prime minister or send an ambassador unless we reach a solution to the Tabah issue. The president went on to say that a solution to the Tabah issue and Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon would lend flexibility to moves made toward resolving the Palestine issue.

Responding to a question about his recent visit to the United States, President Mubarak said: During this visit, we dealt with various issues, the relations between our two countries, and the Middle East issue. We achieved a gain since we succeeded in reactivating the Palestinian issue through the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. The president added: We also succeeded in preparing the U.S. public for the PLO. We stressed the need for PLO participation within the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Continuing, President Mubarak said: Richard Murphy's current tour of the area is one of the positive U.S. steps produced by the visit. He described his trip to the United States as one of his most successful visits.

AL-WATAN noted: There is no doubt that your successful visit to the United States is due to your position and that of your country on Arab and international levels. The president said: Candidness and frankness have been our policy. We have done what we believe. We have neither overt nor covert stands.

President Mubarak continued laughingly: Let me be clear here. Sometimes frankness causes trouble. But it later produces results. I was quite frank with the Americans. This was illustrated in our meetings at the International Press Club, Congress, and the Senate.

There is much talk that Al-Qadhdhafi has requested that relations with Egypt be restored or that he has contacted Egyptian officials. How true is this talk? President Mubarak said: No, no. Al-Qadhdhafi often sends us envoys; and when we announce it, they deny it. However, whenever al-Qadhdhafi contacts us, we discover that there is a plan against the area.

Mubarak Interviewed on U.S. Visit

PM290704 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 26 Apr 85 pp 19-21

[Report on Interview with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak by *AL-HAWADITH* publisher Umayyah al-Lawzi and writer Nash'at al-Taghlabi in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] When *AL-HAWADITH* called on President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt it was not for the purpose of holding a press interview. The visit was a courtesy call and an expression of respect and appreciation. There is no doubt that Egypt has its weight and its role in the Arab world and, after an absence of 5 years, it has begun resuming its role.

But our incessant journalistic search for the truth could not but drive us toward seeking such truth from its main source. We found out that what in Egypt is called a "chat" can produce more than a press interview. This was how the "chat" began when we asked President Mubarak to tell us the truth about his visit to the United States.

The president said: Personally I consider my U.S. visit my most successful visit since I was elected president of the republic. What I would like to say is that I consider the U.S. trip one of the most difficult of trips. It is long and tiring. There is much thinking to be done, the topics are many, and the meetings follow one another.

[Mubarak continues] We discussed matters objectively and logically and on the basis of understanding.

For example, the U.S. view is that it should not hold discussions with the PLO.

Why?

If we were to bring together 20 or 30 Palestinians, nobody could tell which was in the PLO and which was not.

Let us be realistic and live in reality: The Palestinian problem cannot be solved only with the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza, leaving those who live outside those areas susceptible to incitement, exploitation, and terror as a result of their feeling that they have lost their land and their identity and, therefore, have no other choice than to act against U.S. interests.

So the solution must involve the PLO and the Palestinians living abroad. I told the Americans that we should put aside fanatical opposition to the PLO because the PLO exists in the United States itself, in Europe, in the West Bank, and everywhere. There are no physical marks that can distinguish between PLO and non-PLO people.

The important thing about the Congress meeting was that I explained the Palestinian problem in its various aspects. I stressed the need to take advantage of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord, to initiate dialogue with the PLO, and to create an atmosphere of trust. Given that the United States talks with the Soviet Union and with all countries of the world, why should the PLO alone be excluded? Dialogue leads to understanding and then to subsequent steps and maybe to the direct talks which some people are calling for. This could prepare the ground for an international conference, because such a conference cannot be convened without preparation. Dialogue is the practical preparation.

The United States rejects an international conference. Therefore there must be a dialogue that would determine the next steps to be taken. Direct talks could take place between the Palestinians

and the Israelis. Negotiations cannot be held by correspondence or the exchange of messages by pigeon.

There must be a dialogue and the matter must be discussed in all its aspects. If two persons quarrel, can they come to an understanding through the exchange of correspondence? But direct dialogue between them is capable of removing all, or most, causes of dispute.

To begin by holding an international conference would mean that, if 10 or 12 countries were attending, the conference would be confined to speech-making, with each country explaining its stand. The conference would disperse without any results being achieved. This is exactly what we do not want.

I am not opposed to the idea of an international conference, but first the Jordanian-Palestinian accord must be exploited, that is, a direct dialogue must be held, because otherwise we will gain nothing. but if there is no desire to reach a solution, then let us leave things as they are. [Mubarak ends]

The talk then switched to U.S aid to Egypt. The president said: Normally I do not talk about money; I talk about general principles. I will not discuss the details of my talks, but I will say that I got what i wanted. The aid in its entirety has been turned into a grant totaling $2,315,000,000, which the Congress endorsed. It was increased by around $30 million. This money is allocated to the 5-year plan, both military and economic. This is the second year in which I have obtained this grant.

To President Mubarak the question of Sudan is a question of two countries linked geographically, historically, and through kinship. What Sudan wants for itself Egypt also wants; both countries are anxious to deepen and strengthen relations between them. The new regime in Sudan made this abundantly clear when it sent to Cairo a high-ranking special envoy to convey General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab's assurances that the relations between the two countries will proceed as usual and will further grow in strength.

With regard to what is being said about the existence of an alliance or axis among Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, and the PLO, thus suggesting the existence of a Sunni alliance to counter the Shi'ite tide in the area, President Mubarak stressed that Egypt is not seeking alliances or axes. Those who say such things are whiling away their time inventing different stories which some newspapers exploit in order to boost their sales.

The president added: We do not enter any alliances. We are concerned with and interested in Arab and African issues. We support, give backing, and seek to solve our problems. We are not biased in favor of this or that and we follow a straightforward path. We shun all other paths. Jordan has resumed relations with us, but does this mean setting up an alliance? I went to see Saddam Husayn in Iraq, so does that mean the existence of an alliance?

With regard to what is being said – that President Mubarak is the unknown knight standing with Iraq in its war with Iran, the president would only say:

Iraq is an Arab country in difficulty; it is the duty of all the Arabs to help it. We are not behaving like some countries do; we never stab in the back. We do no such thing. If we conclude an alliance we will not be afraid to say so, particularly since there are no longer any secrets in the world. You cannot hold an alliance without two or three parties and, therefore, it becomes public knowledge. Furthermore, against whom is this alliance going to be forged? We have made peace even with Israel, and we are trying to make this peace spread throughout the area. We are exerting pressure on Israel to withdraw from Lebanon. I believe that in mid-May the Israelis will withdraw from the whole of Lebanon.

We have clearly said that Israel must withdraw from Lebanon, the Palestinian problem must be solved, and the problem of Tabah must also be solved. If these three things are not achieved, then the Egyptian Ambassador will not return to Israel. I believe that this is clear.

When we raised the question of relations between Jordan and Syria and the possibility of settling differences between them, the president said:

Maybe Jordan does not wish to have problems with Syria, since it is one of its neighbors. We wish that all the Arab countries would settle the problems between themselves, because these problems are a real disaster.

With regard to cooling the atmosphere between Egypt and Syria, the president said:

Nothing new has happened. Several contacts have taken place between me and the Syrians, but Syria wants us to abrogate the Camp David accords on the basis of its view. Syria wonders: "Will the abrogation of the Camp David accords lead to Israel's return to Sinai? If that is the case then the matter is unimportant because we, you, and all the Arabs will take it back." But we must be realistic with ourselves.

Addressing himself to all the Arab countries, President Mubarak concluded: If you will not deal with your differences then they will destroy you, and destruction will befall the entire Arab nation. You must resort to reason and logic, but if you allow yourselves to be guided by your whims and selfish interests then the Arab world will meet the worst fate.

Mubarak Assails Libyan-Sudanese Relations

GF271506 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 26 Apr 85 P 1

[Text] Cairo — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak assailed on Wednesday [24 April] the step undertaken by the new Sudanese regime to restore relations with Libya. Immediately following the report on the restoration of Libyan-Sudanese relations, he made a private statement before a number of his ministers and executive officials in northern Sinai. He said: "It seems that the new Sudanese regime will bring trouble to us." He then continued: "This trend provokes our worry and supports doubts about the identity of the new Sudanese regime." He added: "They will have their own religion and I will have my own religion. But,

we will undoubtedly adopt a stand toward the Sudanese regime and have a new distribution of force elements along our various borders."

The Egyptian president was with the ministers and the executive officials in northern Sinai in order to open new projects in northern Sinai on the occasion of its national anniversary. He was also waiting for King Husayn and Sultan Qabus.

'Ali Congratulates New Sudanese Prime Minister

NC271433 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1338 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Apr (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali sent a congratulatory cable to Sudanese Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah today on his assumption of office.

The cable said: I beseech God Almighty to grant you success in your new duties and to guide us all, for the sake of good and the prosperity of the Nile Valley's two fraternal people.

Reportage on Visit of Assistant Secretary Murphy

Murphy Arrives 27 April

NC271932 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Apr (MENA) — Richard Murphy, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, arrived in Cairo from Aqaba this evening on a 1-day visit as part of his current tour of Middle Eastern countries to learn their views on the Palestinian issue and the Middle East crisis. He was received by staff members of the American Embassy in Cairo. He is scheduled to meet with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid tomorrow.

Confers With 'Abd al-Majid

NC280825 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid today met with Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs. The U.S. official arrived in Cairo yesterday. The discussions dealt with the outcome of the talks which the U.S. envoy had during his visits to various Mideast countries. The Egyptian and U.S. sides also discussed the ways for providing an impetus to the region's peace efforts.

'Abd al-Majid Comments on Talks

NC281402 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Following a meeting with Richard Murphy, the U.S. President's envoy to the Middle East, Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that Murphy briefed him on his discussions in other countries he visited and that they discussed Murphy's mission. Dr 'Abd al-Majid described the meeting as good, adding that the discussions were useful.

Answering a question on whether there has been progress on the Palestinian problem, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: There has been a good discussion and a mutual understanding between Murphy and us. We are continuing these talks. Concerning the upcoming Shultz tour, Al-Majid said that its date will be set within few days.

On the possibility of an Ismailia meeting between Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi and Avraham Tamir [director general of the Israeli Prime Minister's Office], the foreign minister said that early May had been set, but Israel asked for a few days' postponement. On whether there has been any progress on the Tabah issue, he said: We are continuing to discuss this issue.

Regarding President Husni Mubarak's talks with Sultan Qabus, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that the results have been excellent. We are very happy with this visit. The president has expressed his gratitude to the sultan and the Omani people and has praised the affection and cordiality linking the Egyptian and Omani people. Al-Majid added that Egypt and Oman share identical views and that he wishes relations among all Arab countries would be like those between Egypt and Oman.

Murphy Departs 28 April

NC281446 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1442 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 28 Apr (MENA) — Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, left Cairo this afternoon on his way back home at the end of a 1-day visit to Egypt.

Murphy told journalists at Cairo Airport that there are new points to be discussed with the U.S. Administration. Replying to a question on his assessment of his trip, he said: I cannot say whether my trip was a failure or a success.

Foreign Minister on Palestinian Rights, Murphy

GF281446 Doha QNA in Arabic 0855 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Doha, 28 Apr (QNA) — Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has asserted that his country will not disregard the Arab and Palestinian will with regard to considering the PLO as the sole and the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

In a statement to the Qatri newspaper *AL-'ARAB*, he stressed the importance of starting a U.S. dialogue with a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. He also expressed his belief that this dialogue is important for the continuation of peace moves and for maintaining the momentum in the direction of attaining a just and comprehensive peaceful settlement of the crisis in the region.

On the U.S. opposition to holding a dialogue with a delegation representing the PLO, the Egyptian minister said that his country stresses the full freedom of the PLO in choosing those who represent it in the Palestinian-Jordanian delegation, "moreover, nobody has the right to deprive it of this legitimate rights." He added that U.S. envoy Richard Murphy did not bring anything

new in his current tour that could help in attaining peace. He explored the views and remarks of the sides concerned in the region's crisis.

'Ali Comments on Murphy Tour, Sudan, Gulf War

NC281540 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Cairo, 28 Apr (MENA) – Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali praised His Majesty Sultan Qabus of Oman, and added that the sultan's visit to Egypt will further strengthen bilateral relations. The prime minister said that the tripartite meeting between Sultan Qabus, King Husayn, and President Husni Mubarak greatly contributes to Arab solidarity.

These remarks were made during the prime minister's exclusive interview with MENA's television service. The interview was conducted by Mahmud 'Abd al-'Azim, MENA's assistant editor in chief, and dealt with a number of Arab issues. The prime minister stated that because of a strategic balance, the Iraqi-Iranian war might drag on for years without a victor.

Prime Minister 'Ali alluded to the current tour of the area by Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, saying that the tour indicates that the United States considers as useful President Mubarak's proposal to give impetus to the peace process in the area.

Touching on the Sudanese situation, the prime minister said: We support Sudan's efforts to achieve stability and to begin the development process, whether economic or political, so that the Sudanese leaders can attain their objectives.

'Ali referred to the tripartite meeting between Sultan Qabus, King Husayn, and President Mubarak, and said: This meeting greatly contributed to Arab solidarity, particularly since such meetings usually deal with sensitive issues related to the Arab world and Arab interests.

Answering a question on the Iraqi-Iranian war, how it endangers the Gulf states, and how to stop it, Prime Minister 'Ali said: Egypt was among the first countries to call for an end to this war between two Muslim states. When it became clear that Iraq's borders were threatened, Egypt began providing Iraq with weapons and ammunition. The war's current escalation and expansion is causing a bloodbath in two Muslim countries. He continued: The war is not limited to Iraq and Iran, but threatens the entire Gulf's security. We have seen how a number of oil tankers and other ships were attacked. Undoubtedly, this affects the security of these countries, their oil revenue, and their trade. The war, therefore, greatly affects the region.

The prime minister added: The Iraqi-Iranian war affects the freedom and security of the Gulf. Egypt has continually stressed this point and has tried through different international organizations – the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the Islamic Conference — to stop this war by any means, but regrettably the Iranians insist on continuing it. 'Ali expressed the hope that the recent visit by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar to Iraq and Iran will yield a new Iranian position.

Commenting on the current tour of the region by Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, on the dimensions of his mission, and on whether this tour indicates if President Husni Mubarak's visit to Washington was a success, 'Ali said: Undoubtedly, President Mubarak's visit to the United States was successful. Egypt did not think that the president would receive immediate answers when he visited the United States. The president's proposal to give impetus to the peace process in the Middle East must be studied, particularly since the proposal was only 2 days old when the President went to the United States. Hence, Murphy's (?tour) does indicate that the United States considers the proposal to be useful. 'Ali added: [Words indistinct]in the region is to explore the various parties' views on many issues.

'Ali added that one of the issues is whether the participating groups insist on an international conference or not. Another issue is the composition of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and still another is Israel's position. Murphy's tour included several countries, therefore many issues must be examined before any action can be taken. This is the United States' position.

The prime minister said that many factors have influenced the success of the president's visit to the United States. One example is the many new members of Congress. A number of delegations from congressional committees on financial and political affairs have recently visited Egypt. They all sought to find out Egypt's view on the peace process, Egyptian-Israeli relations, Egyptian-Arab relations, and other matters of interest to the United States.

Replying to a question on the current Arab division, whether it negatively affects the regional peace process, and on how to restore Arab solidarity, Kamal Hasan 'Ali expressed regret for the continuing divisiveness. He said: Those with the problem, the PLO, have adopted a new peace initiative with Jordan. This will, or rather must, make other Arab groups review and alter their positions, particularly since the Fes summit agreement chose peace as the Arab course. No Arab country is required to impede the Palestinian cause, but they must be unified on how the peace process will proceed, on how these Arab countries will affect the process, and on how they can strengthen regional peace to retrieve Arab rights in the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan. He expressed hope that the people will unite and that the Arabs will have one voice in the march for peace.

Answering a question on the Sudanese situation, on the Sudanese leaders' moves toward democracy, on solving the crisis in the south, and on stopping the deterioration of the Sudanese economy, the prime minister said: As every Egyptian and Sudanese knows, Sudan is of strategic importance to Egypt and vice versa. Events in the Nile Valley interest all the people of the valley. But one particular point is always the focus of attention: The domestic affairs of each country are its own concern and neither country will intervene in the other's domestic affairs. Egypt's support is for Sudan as a whole and Sudan's support is for Egypt as a whole.

'Ali continued: This is the position that has prevailed during the recent events and the Armed Forces' assumption of authority in Sudan. There were communications between Egypt and the Sudanese leaders from the start. Egypt's response to the Suda-

nese people's desire was practical and tangible, which is why the Sudanese leaders appreciate the stand of the Egyptian Government and people. We are trying to help Sudan to be stable and secure and to start the economic and political development program to fulfill the principles declared by the Sudanese leaders. Undoubtedly, it takes time for the various parties and groups in Sudan to unite.

The prime minister concluded by saying: We are confident that these leaders will, God willing, be capable of achieving the principles they have declared — democracy, national unity, restoration of stability in the south, and restoration of unity and brotherhood in Sudan as a whole.

Oman's Sultan Qabus Arrives in Cairo 27 Apr

NC271139 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1134 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Apr (MENA) — His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman arrived in Cairo from Aqaba this afternoon on a 2-day official visit to Egypt following his trip to Jordan. This is the fifth visit which Sultan Qabus has made to Egypt since his ascension to the throne.

'Closed Session' With Mubarak

NC280958 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 28 Apr (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak held a closed session of talks with His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman at the Al-Qubbah Palace this morning. The Egyptian and Omani delegations also met to discuss relations between their two countires and means of elevating the volume of trade between them.

The Egyptian-Omani talks will deal with the Middle East situation, the Palestinian issue, the ongoing peace efforts, and the possibility of holding a dialogue between the United States and the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The Egyptian and Omani delegations also will assess the talks which Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle Eastern affairs, had in certain Arab capitals. The discussions will include the situation in the Gulf in light of recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war, the Lebanese issue, and the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Mubarak Comments After Talks

NC281223 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 28 Apr (MENA) — Following today's Egyptian-Omani talks, President Mubarak answered questions. In reply to a query about whether the visit by Richard Murphy, President Reagan's Middle East envoy, to Egypt had achieved anything, the president said: We cannot say that it has not achieved anything. This is a complicated issue and one that needs time. We must reach a solution, but it will not be attained in one round.

Responding to a question about Secretary of State George Shultz' tour of the area and whether it depends on the success of Murphy's mission, President Mubarak said: There is no connection between the results of Murphy's mission and the Shultz tour. Shultz will visit Egypt, Israel, and Jordan because these states are partners in the peace process.

Qabus Concludes Visit, Departs

NC281420 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Oman's Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id left Cairo this afternoon at the end of an official 2-day visit to Egypt during which he met with President Husni Mubarak. They discussed developments in the Middle East problem and the possibility of holding a dialogue between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. They also reviewed aspects of strengthening bilateral cooperation.

Knowledge of U.S.-Inspired Coup in Sudan Denied

NC262034 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2110 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 26 Apr (MENA) — A reliable source has denied reports that the Egyptian authorities knew about a coup attempt to be staged in Sudan by the U.S. intelligence services and Major General 'Umar al-Tayyib, first deputy to the former Sudanese president.

The source affirmed that neither the Egyptian authorities nor the Egyptian intelligence had any knowledge of this, and that the report is fabricated, part and parcel.

The London-based Arabic-lanaguage *AL-MAJALLAH* magazine yesterday quoted Hasan al-Turabi, leader of the Muslim Brotherhood in Sudan, as saying that the U.S. intelligence services, in collaboration with 'Umar al-Tayyib, had prepared a plan for a coup against Numayri, and that the Egyptian intelligence services knew of this.

3d Army To Conduct Maneuver Near al-'Arish

NC280716 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 28 Apr (MENA) — Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, will attend the biggest maneuver ever conducted by the 3d Army near Al-'Arish on Tuesday, the day after tomorrow.

Reporting this today, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* said that the maneuver is part of the Armed Forces' Sinai celebrations.

SFRY Minister, Delegation Arrive 27 April

JN271925 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Apr (INA) — Jon Srbovan, member of the SFRY Executive Council, arrived here tonight heading a delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq. In a statement to INA, the SFRY minister said that he will hold talks with Iraqi officials on developing economic and technical cooperation between both countries. He added that his talks will deal with completing the discussions of the Iraqi-SFRY joint committee for technical and economic cooperation to promote cooperation in various spheres.

Economic, Technical Talks Begin

JN281329 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Apr (INA) — Talks began here today to prepare for meetings of the Iraqi-SFRY committee on economic and technical cooperation, scheduled to be held in Belgrade next month. 'Abd al-Mun'im Hasan 'Alwan, Oil Ministry under secretary and chairman of the committee, chaired the Iraqi side, and Jon Srbovan, member of the SFRY Federal Executive Council and deputy chairman of the Yugoslav side, chaired the SFRY side.

The talks are a continuation of meetings held in Baghdad last March with the aim of working out a new agreement that regulates financial relations between Yugoslav establishments that are implementing development projects in Iraq and Iraqi establishments. The talks are also aimed at expediting the implementation and accomplishment of these projects on the dates fixed in contracts and in accordance with the timetables approved by the two sides.

Jon Srbovan arrived here last night at the head of a delegation.

Trade Minister Meets Srbovan

JN290845 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Apr (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, met with Jon Srbovan, member of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, and his delegation today.

They reviewed bilateral economic and trade cooperation and ways to promote it in the two friendly peoples' interest.

Spokesman Accepts Security Council Statement

JN271845 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Apr (INA) — Iraq has announced its acceptance of last Thursday's UN Security Council statement, including its appeals, on the condition that it is taken as an integrated whole — particularly concerning an immediate cease-fire and realizing a speedy, comprehensive, just, and honorable settlement — and provided Iran openly accepts these appeals. In a statement to INA this evening, a Foreign Ministry spokesman commented on the statement saying: Despite our reservations concerning certain parts of the statement, Iraq, which has been dealing with the Security Council from the very beginning, adheres to this position, stemming from its confidence in its ability to defend its rights at international forums and through the world's legal channels, and its ability to defend its sovereignty, security, and honor on the battlefield.

The spokesman strongly warned that retreating from the Council's previous stances, which were sound, balanced, and based on the UN Charter and international law, will only encourage the aggressive Iranian regime to increase its blackmail against the Security Council and its violation of the UN Charter and international law, and to expand its aggressive acts against Iraq and the region's states. The spokesman expressed surprise that certain circles in the United Nations have started highlighting the Iranian lies that the Security Council had been biased in Iraq's favor and that it had not responded to Iranian demands. He said that such logic was displayed during deliberations over the past few days. He asked: Was the Council really biased in Iraq's favor in its previous resolutions?

The spokesman noted that the real motive behind the positions of certain states that stand to gain commercially and, perhaps, politically as well from the continuation of the war, is not to induce Iran to deal with the Council as they claim, but to force Iraq to boycott the Council. He said that such a boycott will relieve these gentlemen of their responsibilities as members of the Council and will (?lead) to the continuation of the fighting and the tragedies and losses that arise from it so that their lucrative trade might continue.

The spokesman said: How can we explain the statement's call on the "two sides" to cooperate with the Council and the secretary general when those who issued the statement know that Iraq has been cooperating with the Security Council and the secretary general from the beginning. The spokesman pointed out that it was Iran that did not cooperate with the Council and which leveled accusations and abuses on it. The spokesman considered that this recent statement by the Council on ending the war and cooperating with the Council is addressed to Iran, the side that rejects the Council's resolutions, does not cooperate with it, and insists on continuing its war of aggression.

Referring to the letter that the Iraqi foreign minister sent to the UN secretary general on 13 April and in which he warned against Iranian preparations to launch a new offensive against the Iraqi territory, the spokesman said that Iraq will employ all the means available to it to crush the invaders if the Iranian regime launches another aggression against Iraq or if it masses its forces along the Iraqi borders, stemming from Iraq's legitimate right of self-defense.

The spokesman voiced surprise at certain Security Council members and General Secretariat circles who insist on appeasing the side that boycotted the Council and insulted it, and to do injustice to the side that accepted the Charter and international cooperation as a basis to solve the dispute and that accepted all the Security Council resolutions and cooperated with it and with the General Secretariat with sincerity and a sense of responsibility. He said that a weak pretext was given to justify this behavior — namely, to induce the other side, which had boycotted and insulted the Council, to deal with it. The spokesman asserted that this trend constitutes a serious development, because it will

encourage many sides with evil intentions to ignore the Security Council and to hold its resolution in contempt because they will be certain that eventually, the Council will appease them as some are now appeasing the Iranian regime.

The spokesman pointed out that if the Iranian regime one day went to the UN Security Council to discuss the dispute, it would not do so because it was affected by the eloquence of those who try to appease it or because of the phrases that they introduced into the statement, but because of the heroic Iraqi people's stand, which has crushed the Iranian invasion attempts one after the other and rendered Khomeyni's expansionist dreams impossible to achieve.

AL-THAWRAH Criticizes Statement

JN290910 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0518 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Apr (INA) -- The newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* has accused some UN Security Council members and circles of trying to appease the Iranian regime and propagate its calumnies. In its editorial today, the newspaper says: These sides aim at concealing their real stands toward the continuation of war and concealing their role in providing the Iranian regime with arms in order to guarantee the continuation of their trade with Iran.

The newspaper points out that these sides aim at forcing Iraq to boycott the UN Security Council. It ridicules the attempts of some council members and circles to appease the Iranian regime under the pretext of inducing it to deal with the council.

The newspaper affirms that the attempts to appease the Iranian regime are carried out at the expense of principles and against all the international norms and charters. These attempts cover commercial and political gains as a result of the continuation of the war. It warns the UN Security Council against following those who adopt these suspect stands and policies, which the paper describes as a grave trend in international relations that contravenes the Security Council's role and tasks in maintaining international peace and security.

It explains that the Iranian regime has so far rejected four UN Security Council resolutions all expressing an international will to end the war and solve the conflict peacefully.

The newspaper wonders about the reasons for appeasing the Iranian regime to induce it to deal with the UN Security Council after its rejection of all those resolutions. It points out that the Iranian regime, which has proved its levity toward the international will and its exposed defiance of the UN organization throughout the years of the war, used to resort to the Security Council only when it was powerless and unable to achieve its aggressive aims.

It explains that the crux of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict is the Iranian regime's determination to invade Iraq, occupy its territory, and subjugate its people. It says that the real solution to all the problems stemming from the conflict is achieving just, comprehensive, and complete peace and ending the war.

Concluding, *AL-THAWRAH* affirms that Iraq is determined to exercise its legitimate right to defend itself and its independence, security, and dignity. It affirms that Iraq will use all the weapons and methods it possesses to annihilate the Iranian invaders if they try to desecrate an inch of Iraq's territory.

Reportage on Continuing Fighting With Iran

Communique No 1,816

JN261646 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1605 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Communique No 1,816 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 26 April 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces will pursue them, dealing them painful blows wherever they may be and at all times. The Iranian rulers' only choice is to acknowledge comprehensive peace. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Additional information on the bridge towing operation that took place on 24 April in the East of Tigris operational sector mentions that the enemy tried to obstruct the thrust of the Khalid ibn al-Walid force, which was entrusted with the special duty of towing the enemy bridge, by making some of its defeated remnants man several boats in order to obstruct the force that was carrying out the towing operation. However, the courage and alertness of our hero fighters made them pursue their duties with determination, insistence, and extreme self-confidence. Our force towed 600 meters of the bridge in accordance with a meticulous plan and with spendid artillery backing which foiled the enemy plans, forcing the enemy to leave its positions and to leave behind several pieces of military equipment and vehicles and the serviceable military hardware it had stockpiled. The force returned safely after accomplishing their duty, determined to continue the destruction of enemy equipment and military hardware the enemy had prepared for the aggression. The charlatans and their defeated remnants must expect more destructive blows by the soldiers of leader Saddam Husayn.

2. Our daring helicopter gunships pursued enemy remants and military hardware in the East of Tigris operational sector, inflicting on them heavy losses and damage, destroying eight infantry positions, four hideouts, three observation posts, and four boats, and killing several enemy troops. The hero knights of the helicopter gunships returned safely and triumphantly with their helicopters, under God's protection.

3. Several of our artillery units dealt concentrated blows to enemy positions and troop concentrations in the central sector of the battlefield, destroying three infantry positions and two observation posts whose occupants were killed.

4. Dealing successive artillery blows, our valiant units in the East of Tigris operational sector continued to engage the enemy and to strike its positions and military hardware, destroying three

vehicles carrying military hardware and four hardware stockpiles which were also set on fire.

5. Our brave artillery men opened fire on enemy positions and troop concentrations in the Maysan sector, killing six enemy troops and destroying two vehicles whose occupants were also killed.

6. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and observation posts in the East of Basra operational sector, killing one enemy and destroying two firing positions and one infantry position whose occupants were killed. An ambulance was sighted evacuating enemy losses.

7. The criminal enemy shelled Mandali and Al-Shihabi environs with long range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 April 1985

Commander Denies Raid on Tehran

JN271719 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1646 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Apr (INA) — The commander of the Air Force and Air Defense Forces has asserted that Iraq did not carry out any raids on selected targets inside Iran yesterday evening. Responding to a question asked by INA concerning Iranian allegations disseminated by the IRANIAN NEWS AGENCY and cited by AFP and other media on Iraqi planes breaking the sound barrier over Tehran last night, the commander said that he has no definte explanation for these allegations, except, perhaps, that the nerves of the Iranian rulers are so tense that they sound alarms and open antiaircraft fire in Tehran without any Iraqi Air Force activity inside Iran.

Communique No 1,817

JN271700 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Communique No 1,817 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 27 Apr 85]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

On the eve of the day that our masses have lovingly chosen as a glorious, happy day of tremendous jubiliation, our brave fighters — leaders, commanders, officers, and NCO's, as well as their comrades, the Popular Army fighters — congratulate themselves on the birth of their leader, the builder of Iraq's glorious power, and the good example of the Iraqi sons in thought, fighting, deeds, and behavior. The greatest Armed Forces' gift to the Iraqi people and leader is to continue decisive victories with the roaring of guns and the whizzing of bullets, which they hurl in the face of the tyrant clique that covets our land and that bears grudges against our people and against their stability and joy. Our Armed Forces will remain true to their promise to the people and their leader until the tyrant clique submissively heeds the call of truth and the voice of peace.

Long life for our leader and victory for our people. Forward for a free, happy life.

The following is a summary of operations for last night and today.

1. In order to continue the blockade on the enemy's oil resources, our Air Force planes launched an air raid on a large maritime target near Khark Island at 1200 [0800 GMT] today. Having accurately hit their target, our planes returned safely to base, affirming to the evil clique in Iran that this is the just punishment that the Iraqi heroes will mete out to it every day.

2. In order to prevent the enemy from carrying out any act of aggression against our country, our Iraqi heroes are lying in wait for all its evil deeds. In a bold, courageous operation and while carrying out its duties in front of our forward units in the East of Tigris sector, one of our patrol units took control of a bridge that the enemy had built. Our unit dismantled 400 meters of the bridge and pulled the dismantled part to one of our positions. All the members of the unit returned safely to base.

3. Our daring helicopter gunships carried out bold, successful attacks on enemy positions and equipment in the East of Basra and East of Tigris sectors, dealing its defeated remnants effective, violent blows. The enemy lost the following:

A. Seven boats were destroyed and their occupants killed.

B. One big boat carrying personnel was destroyed and all of its occupants were killed.

C. Eight infantry positions and one hideout were destroyed.

D. Two antiaircraft machine guns were destroyed.

4. Our brave artillery men directed intensive fire at enemy units opposite our positions East of Basra inflicting massive losses and destroying one boat carrying personnel, two medium machine guns, one 60 mm mortar, and one hardware stockpile.

5. While carrying out its duties in the prohibited zone, one of our patrols caputured four enemy boats and a quantity of hardware in the East of Tigris sector. Elsewhere in the same sector, one hardware stockpile and one vehicle carrying personnel were destroyed.

6. An enemy patrol attempted to advance toward our forward positions in the northern sector, but it was confronted with fire killing or wounding a number of its members. The rest fled. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our units destroyed an enemy infantry position and one observation post and killed those manning them.

7. Six enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded and one vehicle and one infantry position were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

8. Six enemy infantry positions and four observation posts were destroyed in the central sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 April 1985

Communique No 1,818

JN281655 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Communique No 1,818 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 28 April 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces celebrated the birthday of their unique commander, President Saddam Husayn, in positions of power and trenches of honor today. All the gallant Iraqi fighters recall joyfully on this blessed day the struggle of our beloved leader, the builder of the new, happy Iraqi home, the defender of the people and their territory, the founder of our gigantic development, and the uniter of the people's ranks along the path of wellbeing and hope -- a leader who is living with the masses and for their sake on the fighting ground of life, leading their ranks in continuous work and persevering struggle to confirm Iraq's right and deserved status among peoples. It is the men's pledge, sealed with blood for the leader of victory, that the homeland's citizens will remain a great barrier protecting the people's accomplishments, heritage, history, and future of its sons and repulsing the barbaric ill wind. Long live our leader! May Iraq always be prosperous! Let us move from one victory to another!

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. The great Iraqi hawks continued their magnificent attacks in the East of Basra and East of Tigris sectors, swooping down on the Khomeyniite remnants and their columns, spreading among them terror and destruction in 67 combat missions, after which the sky hawks returned successfully.

2. In successful air raids, our helicopter gunships carried out several combat missions over enemy positions and weapons emplacements in the East of Basra and East of Tigris sectors, inflicting large losses in men and equipment, including the destruction of eight infantry positions, three bunkers, six boats with their occupants killed, and one antiaircraft machine gun. Our helicopters also hit several enemy troop assembly points and burned one hardware stockpile. The brave helicopter knights returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. A force from our brave forward units penetrated enemy positions in the East of Tigris sector and clashed with the enemy, inflicting large losses that included the destruction of six infantry positions and the burning of our hardware stockpiles. The enemy troops were heard shouting for help. The force returned with a quantity of serviceable equipment and weaponry.

4. Using artillery and other weapons, our forward units intensified their painful blows to enemy weapons emplacements, positions, and troops in the East of Basra sector, scoring direct hits, killing three troops, and destroying five infantry positions, one mortar, and one observation post with its occupants killed.

5. Our forward units pounded the enemy positions and mortars in the central sector of the operational theater, destroying two observation posts as well as one infantry position with its occupants killed and one 82-mm mortar emplacement with its crew killed.

6. One enemy infantry position was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

7. One enemy troop was killed in the northern sector.

8. Fresh groups of Iranian civilians sought refuge with our forward units in the battlefronts. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 April 1985

Assistant Secretary Murphy Arrives in Aqaba 27 Apr
JN271122 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern Affairs, arrived in Aqaba today on a short visit during which he will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and several senior officials. He was received at Aqaba Airport by Aktham al-Qusus, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

King Husayn Receives Murphy
JN271451 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1442 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Aqaba, 27 Apr (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn received Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, at the Royal Palace in Aqaba this afternoon.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the foreign minister, and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

Murphy arrived in Aqaba at noon today.

Further Report on Talks
JN280619 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 28 Apr 85 p 1

[By Salamah B. Ni'mat, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Excerpt] Amman — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy left Aqaba for Cairo Saturday after talks with His Majesty King Husayn on Middle East peace prospects and the possibilities of starting a U.S. dialogue with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Mr. Murphy, who began his Middle East tour on April 13 with an earlier visit to Jordan, arrived here from Israel for a six-hour visit but no details of his talks were revealed.

King Husayn told reporters before Mr. Murphy's arrival that "I have no idea at this point. There were discussions during his first visit and he had to come back after his tour. We shall continue our dialogue." Mr. Murphy declined to make any statement to reporters at the Aqaba airport.

Mr. Murphy's tour was aimed at assessing the possibility of starting a U.S. dialogue with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation as a prelude to direct negotiations with Israel.

Informed sources told the *JORDAN TIMES* Mr. Murphy had cited two conditions for U.S. talks with a proposed Jordanian-Palestinian team: First, if the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) insisted to be independently represented in the joint delegation, it should announce its recognition of Israel and its endorsement of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as a pre-requisite to its participation in negotiations. Second, if the PLO rejected this proposal, the alternative is that the joint delegation would include Palestinian personalities who are members of the Palestine National Council (PNC) provided these members are not declared representatives of the PLO.

The sources said the PLO categorically rejected both conditions.

SAWT AL-SHA'B Editorial on Murphy
JN280913 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Apr 85 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "Ignoring the Facts in the Peace Process"]

[Text] At the conclusion of the U.S. assistant secretary of state's tour of the region, the United States will have obtained a clear picture that is not open to interpretation of the Arab stand on the Middle East peace issue and the pillars of any peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict which could achieve just, comprehensive peace in the region.

The Arabs have gone all the way in calling for peace. They have offered all that can be offered to confirm their sincere endeavor to achieve that peace and spare the Middle East the woes of wars and destruction. This is represented by the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the call for a U.S. dialogue with a Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation. These two serious initiatives are aimed at breaking the stalemate in peace efforts and at urging the United States to play a more effective role in the peace process.

While the U.S. officials are eager to emphasize Washington's good intention of continuing its efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East by practicing this policy through contacts with the disputing sides, except the Palestinians of course, the Israeli policy is trying to cast doubt on the U.S. efforts and is obstructing U.S. diplomacy to prevent it from achieving any progress.

While we are fully aware that no matter how serious it is the U.S. move will not be able to rid itself of the Israeli refusal to recognize the legitimate Palestinian representation in any dialogue or negotiations, the peace attempts and efforts cannot bypass or ignore Palestinian rights. Moreover, the United States cannot possibly be a mediator in the Middle East conflict as long as it continues to ignore the fact that the Palestinian issue is the principal issue in the region's conflict.

The U.S.-Israeli disavowal of the Palestinian people's rights, their existence, their right to self-determination, and their effective participation on an equal basis with all the parties, has completely isolated the U.S. and Israeli sides from world consensus regarding these rights. It has also hampered all the sincere efforts to achieve peace. Moreover, this disavowal has established a camp that opposes the will and consensus of the world at large. This is unacceptable and can be justified least of all by the U.S. Government.

The facts that envoy Murphy will submit to his government cannot ignore the pressing historical events that impose them-

selves on the peace process — the Palestinian role will continue to be the decisive factor in the entire process. Regardless of Israel's attempts to frustrate and cast doubt on the U.S. policy and spread rumors about Arab disagreement and differences, ultimately Washington will not be able to be completely biased toward aggression, except if it is determined to embark on an adventure which does not take into consideration its interests and stability in general in the Middle East.

King Husayn Comments on Talks With Omani Leader

JN271616 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Amman, 27 Apr (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn described the visit of His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman, to Jordan as successful and fruitful.

In a statement to reporters, he said that their majesties' talks were comprehensive and dealt with subjects pertaining to bilateral and Arab issues. His Majesty King Husayn expressed his satisfaction and that of His Majesty Sultan Qabus with the results of these talks.

Qabus, Delegation Depart for Cairo

JN271038 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Aqaba — His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman and the accompanying delegation left Aqaba at noon today for Cairo, following a 5-day visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. His Majesty Sultan Qabus was accorded an official send-off, led by His Majesty King Husayn.

Bulgarian Foreign Ministry Official Arrives

JN271146 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Amman — Ivan Ganev, Bulgarian deputy minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Amman today on a 2-day visit to Jordan during which he will hold talks with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and senior Ministry officials. The talks will deal with bilateral relations, and exchanging views on the Middle East issue and issues of mutual concern.

In a statement to the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY, PETRA, Ganev said the talks will review ways of promoting and supporting relations between Jordan and Bulgaria, particularly in the industrial field. The Bulgarian diplomat's visit comes within the framework of a tour of several Arab countries.

Al-Masri Confers With Ganev

JN281153 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and Bulgarian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivan Ganev reviewed relations between Jordan and Bulgaria and ways to support and promote them. They also discussed the Middle East issue and a number of issues of mutual concern.

Cabinet Meets on State Land, Cooperation With FRG

JN280614 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Apr 85 p 1

[Text] The cabinet held an ordinary session at the Prime Ministry last night. During the session, the cabinet reviewed a number of topics on its agenda and adopted the necessary decisions in this regard.

Among these decisions was one approving the exchange of memorandums between the Jordanian and FRG Governments on exploiting shale oil in the Al-Lajjun area, as well as providing the necessary German technical expertise in the geological and hydrological fields and operational and economic engineering.

The cabinet approved a request by the previously established ministerial committee to present without delay a comprehensive formula regarding the issue of state land and submit the appropriate solutions.

Jordan To Participate in 1985 Damascus Fair

JN281509 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Amman, 28 Apr (PETRA) — The Council of Ministers has decided that Jordan will participate in the 1985 Damascus International Fair that will be held 12-25 September. This is in response to an official invitation that the Ministry of Industry and Trade received inviting the Jordanian Trade Centers Corporation to participate in the fair.

Syrian Presidential Envoy Meets Al-Jumayyil

NC271219 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Syrian presidential envoy Major General al-Khuli arrived in Beirut from Damascus today. He immediately proceeded to the Presidential Palace where he was received by President al-Jumayyil. The talks between President al-Jumayyil and envoy al-Khuli are expected to deal with the current situation in the south, especially recent events in the Sidon area.

Karami on Al-Khuli Visit

NC271553 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Apr 85

[News conference by Prime Minister Rashid Karami at the Presidential Palace in Beirut on 27 April following a meeting between President Amin al-Jumayyil and Major General Muhammad al-Khuli, special envoy of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad; questioners not identified — recorded]

[Text] [Karami] Following yesterday's telephone conversation between President al-Jumayyil and President al-Asad, Syrian envoy Major General Muhammad al-Khuli came to Beirut to brief President al-Jumayyil on the Islamic Conference and on the statement it issued. This statement includes well-known specific decisions. Discussions dealt with the current situation in Lebanon and other topical issues. The president explained his views on these issues in order to make President Hafiz al-Asad aware of the full situation, to determine the next comprehensive step in light of the anticipated withdrawals, and to implement the national salvation march.

I have received (Liu), the envoy of the UN secretary general. He is trying, with a plan he brought, to arrange unconditional and unrestricted comprehensive withdrawals. We have expressed our view on this issue; we absolutely reject establishing a security strip or buffer zone. We await future developments in this regard.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, is there a specific Syrian role in ending the current situation in the Sidon area?

[Karami] The Syrian stand in support of Lebanon during every stage prompts us to say honestly that we need such support and aid daily. We are confident that Syria spares nothing to save Lebanon from its current difficulties.

[Question] On the government level, Mr Prime Minister, there are persistent calls for convening a Cabinet session as soon as possible. Are there any developments in this respect?

[Karami] Undoubtedly, exchanges are continuing to surmount the difficulties which obstructed the convening of the Cabinet. I hope we will manage to set a date for convening the Cabinet.

[Question] Are we to understand that there are still obstacles which prevent a full Cabinet session?

[Karami] Part of the situation that we experienced prevented the holding of a Cabinet session in the presence of all ministers. There are difficulties which forced the absences. We are striving to overcome these difficulties.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, when will the Lebanese Army enter the Christian villages and work for the return of displaced persons?

[Karami] Under any circumstances, we hope that the Army is preparing to deploy wherever it is needed.

Syrian Envoy Departs Beirut

NC271845 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Syrian envoy Major General Muhammad al-Khuli left Beirut for Damascus following talks with President al-Jumayyil.

Karami on Dumas Visit, Israeli Withdrawal

NC261720 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Apr 85

[News conference by Prime Minister Rashid Karami following a meeting at the Presidential Palace in Ba'bda between President al-Jumayyil and French Minister of External Relations Roland Dumas; questioners not identified — live or recorded]

[Text] [Karami] We received the French minister of external relations, who is here on a visit of friendship and support for Lebanon at a difficult time for the country. We briefed him on our view of what is taking place regarding Israel's withdrawals and the talk of establishing a buffer zone. On this issue, we emphasized that what Israel is seeking will not serve its objectives or wishes, as security in Lebanon depends on our exercise of full sovereignty and the complete liberation of our land. We believe that when Lebanon's security situation stabilizes, it will automatically have an impact on others. In the absence of an unconditional, comprehensive withdrawal, nothing can force the national resistance to stop doing its duty, which is to liberate all of our national soil.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, can we view the French minister's sudden visit to Beirut as a new French initiative to solve the Lebanese crisis?

[Karami] Undoubtedly, international interest in Lebanon is one of the bases that supports and facilitates a way out of the difficult situation we're facing. As you know, France is a friendly country. Lebanon and France are linked by historical ties. Herein lies the importance of bilateral cooperation.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] You know that my resignation stemmed from a desire to pave the way for a new government that would deal with the situation and work on our problems. This would allow us to emerge from the current situation, especially after the painful events in Sidon and Beirut. However, in accordance with the wishes of my brothers, particularly His Excellency Lieutenant General President Hafiz al-Asad, I found it necessary to retract

my resignation. This was due largely to the fact that the reasons which made me resign disappeared with the agreement reached at the Islamic conference in Damascus. Therefore, we have resumed our duties and the government will continue to assume its responsibility to serve Lebanon.

[Question] What is the government's position toward what has been going on east of Sidon since last night? How does it view the evacuations?

[Karami] We are truly distressed by what has been and is going on in Sidon. I don't want to assign any blame. What happened yesterday in that dear area was a mistake. It has led to problems and troubles for the sons of Sidon, whose national feelings and coexistence as a single family are known to us. The evacuation has affected a large number of sons of the capital of the south. Today, unfortunately, the very reactions to those events have caused our brothers in 'Abra, Darb al-Sim, Al-Hilaliyah, and other areas to suffer the same fate as their brothers in Sidon. I hasten to say that both the action and the reaction are totally impermissible. We have been in touch with various leaders and officials in and around Sidon. All of them reject what is currently going on. They have done everything to stop these violations, to provide security for our brothers there, and to allow those who have been evacuated to return in the coming hours.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, will the Cabinet meet tomorrow or next Wednesday, and will all its members attend?

[Karami] We will inform you when a date for the Cabinet session has been fixed.

[Question] On events in eastern Sidon, it has been reported that Palestinians are taking part in the fighting. Is this true?

[Karami] I have no information on that. I rule it out. If some of this is true, then we cannot accept it.

[Question] Will the Army go to certain areas there to stop the reactions?

[Karami] Obviously, the Army has its own duties and role to play. We will work to move these forces so they can take up positions where necessary.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, do you intend to hold a Cabinet session soon?

[Karami] Undoubtedly, the Cabinet will meet.

Prime Minister Karami Leaves for Tripoli

NC271842 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami left Beirut for Tripoli today at 1730 aboard a military helicopter. He plans to spend the weekend there and to discuss current developments with northern leaders.

Karami Regrets Sidon Incidents

NC281540 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid Karami following a meeting with various figures and delegations in Tripoli on 28 April — recorded]

[Excerpt] The more acute the crisis the easier will be its solution. We must keep a cool head to deal with matters and safeguard the interests of this homeland and prevent any harm to this people. The enemy, which has been plotting strife and division of Lebanon and its people, has only a few weeks left until his occupation of our sacred land in the south ends. This period, God willing, will expire, and the enemy will withdraw without conditions or restrictions. Then, I think, our salvation will be in our own hands, and matters will then resume their normal course.

What is happening these days in Sidon, its suburbs, and along its coastal road is regrettable. When I said that what is happening is a reaction to previous actions, I heard criticism and blame from some known sources. I wonder: Is there anything unrealistic in what I said? Am I supposed to cover up the facts? No. Frankness should be our course for dialogue and understanding about the plan which must be agreed upon. In light of this plan we can cooperate to achieve national reconciliation. Without the achievement of national reconciliation, I see no way of ensuring security, stability, and peace for all people.

Therefore, the legal authority must play the basic role. The uprising took place with a view to destroying the legal authority. How then can we lift this country and the citizens out of this whirlpool, which has entered its 11th year? It should be understood that all must follow the course of wisdom in our common interest, because the unity of Lebanon is based on the unity of the people. If we are really sincere about working to achieve this objective, the course is clear and known to all.

Israel has been behind most of the fabricated differences and suspect plans. Israel is still pursuing such plans in order to fragment the people and establish the buffer zone it has been talking about seeking. We in the state and government are aware of what Israel is seeking. We are determined to make it impossible for Israel to establish a buffer zone and we push for total and full unconditional withdrawal.

We say frankly that the south can never be calm and Lebanon can never be stable so long as one inch of it remains unliberated. Liberation is the objective of the Lebanese. We shall continue to work to achieve this objective as soon as possible, God willing.

Phalangist Source on Sidon, Karami's Remarks

NC271928 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] A responsible source from the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee this evening reacted to Prime Minister Rashid Karami's claims concerning the fate of Christians in the towns east of Sidon.

The source said: We ask Prime Minister Karami to stop this unacceptable method of maneuvering. Let us be blunt. The source further said that the population of over nine Christian villages east of Sidon has been evicted and their homes have been looted and burned, as shown in newspapers and on television. Can't the prime minister take a position on these barbaric acts so the people will feel that he is a prime minister? In addition, certain fanatic factions from Sidon, backed by Palestinians and Lebanese from outside the area, carried out similar actions against Christian towns east of Sidon.

The source expressed surprise at Prime Minister Karami's assessment of the barbaric operation of overrunning the Christian villages in the Sidon area, describing the operation as a reaction. He justified his position by condemning the action and reaction, although prior to the withdrawal of the Lebanese Forces from the area he never used such terms in his daily statements. The attacks on the Christians by foreigners, in Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and Darb al-Sim in particular, deserved national reactions.

The source also expressed his surprise at Karami's ignorance of Palestinians participating in Sidon area battles, which lasted over 30 days. We refer him to his former ally Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] statement that his group fought, not against Israel, but against the Christians villages east of Sidon, to demonstrate that Palestinian gunmen participated in the clashes. We also request that Karami ask the members of his sect, particularly Dr Nazih al-Bizri and Usamah Sa'd, verify Palestinian participation.

The source added: We will seek prime Minister Karami's apology should we conclude from his allegation that the actions against the Christians were merely a reaction. The fact that he is ignoring the Palestinian participation is a clear and direct couverup of the plot to separate Christians from Muslims and to partition the country. Prior to the Lebanese Forces' withdrawal, Karami used to reiterate that the events in the Sidon area served the plan to divide the people into sects and to partition the country.

The source further said: We have proven by deeds that we do not want to play the Israeli game. His excellency, however, is proving by words and deeds that he is involved in the Palestinian plot. It seems that the Islamic group and the Palestinians who protected Karami in Tripoli are being protected by him in Sidon. The source called on Karami to translate into action his declared position rejecting the painful situation east of Sidon against the Christians by taking prompt and practical steps to return the people to their homes and to provide them with security in order to prevent dividing the people. First he must promptly call a Cabinet meeting and ensure that the Army assumes the security role in Sidon. Otherwise, every child and elderly person from Darb al-Sim to Al-Hilaliyah will hold his excellency responsible. History has no mercy, the source concluded.

Christian Ministers Request Cabinet Session on South

NC271149 [Clandestine] Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] The Christian ministers, who met at [former] President Camille Sham'un's house this morning, have issued a statement. The statement, read by Minister Jospeh al-Hashim, says: The conferees at this meeting discussed the gravity of the situation in the Sidon area, a situation which constitutes another link in the chain of events pointing to a suspicious separation of communities. They agreed to call on the government to convene an urgent extraordinary session to discuss the deteriorating situation and to adopt necessary measures concerning it. The conferees asked the Army command to send reliable forces to maintain security in the areas of Sidon and Jazzin. They called on the functionaries concerned to shoulder their responsibilities and to assist in putting an end to the fighting and to the displacements. They also called for the immediate return of all displaced persons to their homes in the areas of Sidon and its environs, and to compensate them for the losses they have suffered.

The statement added that the ministers will follow up developments pertaining to the situation in the south in order to take appropriate positions regarding them.

[Former] President Camille Sham'un said: We will take the measures warranted by the situation if the Cabinet hesitates in implementing decisions. He added: We are against resignation because resignation is a negative action that will prevent the official from carrying out his duties. That is why we have met and that is why we have reached our decisions. We have asked the government to convene as soon as possible in order to take positive steps to restore normal conditions in the south.

Sham'un said that he did not share Prime Minister Karami's views in belittling the significance of what had taken place in Sidon and in regarding it as a reaction to events. He confirmed that what had occurred was an independent action by groups who meant evil. He added: The Christians will return to their villages if the necessary security measures are taken in the south, for there is danger if security is absent.

Nabih Birri, Syria's Khaddam Discuss Sidon

NC261743 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri was contacted this afternoon by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The discussions dealt with the situation in Sidon and developments in the surrounding villages.

More on Birri-Khaddam Discussion

NC270813 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] In the exchange between Minister Nabih Birri and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Minister Birri briefed Khaddam on the details of recent events taking place in the environs of Sidon. Minister Birri told Khaddam that the Amal Movement has been able to control the situation in Maghdushah and its environs and thus prevent complications from arising in this comparatively large Christian town.

Birri pointed out that no more than 25 percent of the original inhabitants lived in the towns that were attacked. He noted that some gaps have occurred, which can be prevented by bringing the security situation under control.

Minister Birri affirmed to Khaddam that deploying the 1st Brigade from Mashgharah to Jazzin will restore matters to normal, establish a reassuring atmosphere for citizens, and allow people to return to their homes. Minister Birri also noted that the cause of recent developments can be traced to events in Sidon.

Minister Birri intensified his contacts with Sidon functionaries yesterday, especially with Dr Usamah Sa'd. They agreed on the need to prevent displacements from Christian villages and to bar the way to any Israeli plan.

Minister Birri also asked Amal movement commands in the south to take up arms in Maghdushah and to maintain the security of citizens there, as well as in neighboring towns. He requested Amal members not to permit a separation of the population or attacks against civilians.

It has been reported that Amal movement fighters have taken control of Maghdushah, 'Ayn al-Dulb, Jinsnaya, and Kafr Hatta and are maintaining security in these areas.

Nabih Birri Holds News Conference 27 Apr

NC271950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Apr 85

[News Conference by Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, in Beirut on 27 April; questioners not identified — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Birri] I would like to point out again that what has happened in Beirut was not the result of a decision by the Amal movement. The object was not for one party to dominate the other. What has happened is a real plot concocted by known parties abroad. It has its deep roots at home. The Lebanese regime has insinuated, and is still insinuating, that the Sunnite community is responsible for the usurpation of the Shi'ite community's rights. The constant attempts being made to make one party fear the other is the real cause behind the reactions which followed the incidents that occurred between Al-Murabitun on the one hand and the Amal movement and the Progressive Socialist Party on the other. In other words, the sectarian regime in Lebanon, which plants and develops such a fear, played a major and effective role in portraying the battle that was fought as a battle among the Muslims. I frankly admit that this policy, which Amin al-Jumayyil has been following since his inauguration, has succeeded to a large extent. Its features emerged following the recent battle among parties in the Beirut arena.

We gave our orders to return the fire after we ascertained that certain parties had left their camps with the intention to strike at the Amal movement in West Beirut and consolidate the [communities] separation in all Lebanon. I was in a position of self-defense. It became clear to me that the aim of the plot was to create an uprising in the eastern area of Beirut at the hands of the Israelis and an uprising in West Beirut at Arab hands. The aim was one and the same — to return Lebanon to the pre-February events. Despite all this and despite the fact that the medicine was bitter and that I considered it as a nightmare, it was my duty to shoulder my responsibility toward Beirut first and toward all the patriots next.

[Question] You were in Damascus and you came back with results which are supposed to have their effects not only on Beirut but also on the general situation, given the fact that the discussion in Damascus dealt with the general situation in the country. The events in Sidon, we believe, come within this context. Is there a plot to establish a Christian canton on the border? Amal's stand on this issue is a principled one at any rate. What is happening now and what must be implemented in the south?

[Birri] The fact is that all that has happened was prepared and staged by Israel. The main responsibility for what has happened falls on the shoulders of the Lebanese Forces, who are still acting as a tool in the hands of Israel. If the present displacement of the Christians continues, it would make them move to the border strip and we would be in the (?position) which we feared. A more serious matter is that there is a plot against the Palestinians in the south. Israel wants this plot against the Palestinians. Israel wants the Palestinians to brandish their arms in the south. Israel wants the Palestinians to return with arms to all the camps. Israel would like to see the Palestinian arms used in Tyre tomorrow and in Sidon today. Why? It is because the Israelis want to sow dissension between the Lebaense and Palestinians there. This is a new-old plan.

Israel is skillfully preparing this plot. I maintain that it has planted its agents among all parties, particularly in some of the camps, to achieve its objective. The Palestinian people and leaders must be aware of this and they must revise their calculations. Their conspicuous arms previously led to what happened in 1982 and will lead now to something even uglier. I mean by this fighting among the Palestinians themselves and fighting between the Palestinians and Lebanese. This is the plan being prepared now. We will not permit the disintegration of the south nor the establishment of cantons in it by Israel or its agents. Allowing the establishment of cantons means allowing the partition of Lebanon, and not the south alone.

[Question] There is a call for sending the Army to Sidon and the south. At any rate, the Army is required to enter all the areas to be evacuated by the occupation forces. However, there is a campaign to cast doubt on the role of the military institution. How do you explain this stand on the Army?

[Birri] The military institution passed through a period of domination before the formation of the national unity Government. This is a fact. What has happened, and what is happening, to the Army is what has happened, and is happening, to the Lebanese people. In the Army, there are some who have a surplus of bombs, machineguns, tanks, and armored cars and there are some who do not even have boots to wear. Some brigades are at least 70 percent armed and other brigades are armed only 7 percent. Both categories belong to the Lebanese Army. They consider the Army in Beirut as a Shi'ite army. This is the 6th Brigade. For the record, the 6th Brigade is the most disciplined, in my opinion, not only in Lebanon but in all of the Arab world. Has this brigade

stood along side the Amal movement in the recent battle so that it can be called a Shi'ite brigade? What is important is that the 6th Brigade was described as Shi'ite in order to stop it from being supplied with arms and ammunition. In Sidon, the battalion there was described as Sunnite. Therefore, the supply of arms and ammunition to it must stop.

The Army barracks in Sidon was attacked several times. The Army there, which comprises the 13th and 121st brigades, was displaced. The Lebanese Air Force made no moves. Why didn't the Lebanese Air Force act this time? Nobody should claim that I was satisfied with this state of affairs. Unity is what is required in Lebanon. How could unity be realized in Lebanon without a united Lebanese Army? Some say that we should disband the militias and stop depending on them. The only way to do away with the militias is the abolition of political sectarianism in the Army. Conscription should be introduced and it should apply to everybody. There is no harm whether there are a few more Muslims than another faction in the Lebanese Army. The Lebanese Army must be rebuilt to defend Lebanon. This task is being obstructed by the Lebanese regime, and mainly by the president of the Lebanese Republic.

Minister Joseph Skaf To Tender Resignation

NC291232 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] The Higher Council of the Greek Catholic community held an extraordinary meeting in the presence of Minister Joseph Skaf and a number of former ministers. During the meeting, Minister Skaf announced that, in accordance with his earlier positions, which are known, in line with the Greek Catholic community's stand, which is based on Lebanon's unity and the coexistence of all its sons, and in protest of the partitionist plots and those to separate our people along sectarian lines, he was resigning from the government. He added that he will soon be going to B'abda Palace to tender his resignation to the president of the republic, as stipulated by the Constitution.

The Higher Council of the Greek Catholic community is still in session.

Army Commander 'Awn Leaves for Damascus

NC270834 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Syrian envoy Major General Muhammad al-Khuli is expected in Beirut today. He will discuss with President al-Jumayyil means of dealing with the Sidon incidents and their results. Meanwhile, Army Commander General Michel 'Awn has left for Damascus.

Army Commander 'Awn Returns

NC271840 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Army Commander General Michel 'Awn returned to Beirut following talks with Syrian officials in Damascus.

Lebanese Forces, Phalangists Create Joint Command

NC290711 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] A joint meeting of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee and the Lebanese Phalangist Party Political Bureau was held last night. According to press reports this morning, it was agreed to create an emergency committee to confront the current situation and to make military and political decisions. It was agreed to create a unified command for the Lebanese Forces and the Phalangist Party's regular forces.

The press reports add that the emergency committee will be chared by [Phalangist Party leader] Dr Elie Karamah, and will include Dr George Sa'adah, Attorney Joseph Sa'adah, Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir, Dr Samir Ja'Ja', Attorney Karim Paqraduni, and Eli Hubayqah.

Reportage on Factional Fighting in Sidon Area

PSP Issues Statement

NC280555 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] A responsible source in the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has stated the following:

The Popular Liberation Army Forces — Martyr Kamal Junblatt units — carried out a limited operation in Iqlim al-Kharrub to mop up some areas of the Phalangist remnants and to lift the siege imposed on Siblin, Barja, Daraiyya, Shhim, and other villages. The party notes that the Lebanese Army must assume its duties on the coastal line.

The PSP explained that its forces will never attack the Army. It asks the Army to ensure the safety of citizens coming from liberated Sidon.

Druze Attack Iqlim al-Kharrub

NC280616 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Military developments took place in Iqlim al-Kharrub last night. Junblatt gunmen attacked Christian towns and villages, which have been empty of fighters since the implementation of a so-called security plan. Under this plan, the Army assumed responsibility for security in Iqlim al-Kharrub. Large numbers of Junblatt gunmen, supported by dissident Palestinian units belonging to Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], took control of the Christians towns and villages up to Al-Jiyah on the coastal road. The Lebanese Army in the area did not intervene to stop the advance of the gunmen. The gunmen surrounded the Army a short while ago. It has been reported that these gunmen then seized the Army's APC's and armored vehicles. There are no reports yet on the bloody incidents against the area's inhabitants who, according to the latest information which we have received at the studio, have left most of their villages. Some inhabitants have been besieged in Al-Sa'diyat up to 'Ayn al-Hawr.

Inhabitants are withdrawing by means of the road from Al-Rumaylah to 'Alman, Mazra't al-Dahr, Bisri Bridge, and Jazzin. This road is now coming under heavy shelling by Junblatt gunmen and dissident Palestinians. Several casualties have occurred among the fleeing women and children.

Israelis Shell Sidon

NC281431 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Following sorties over the mountain and the Iqlim regions by Israeli warplanes, at 1300 today the occupation forces began shelling Sidon and the liberated areas of Iqlim al-Kharrub. The shelling, is sometimes intensive, other times intermittent, still continues from Israeli positions in Kafr Rumman, Jisr al-Khardali, and Hursh 'Ali Tahir. Recent reports from the south indicate that the Israeli occupation forces began their withdrawal from Tyre at 1500 today.

Bastion of Ja'ja' Group Falls

NC280906 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Majdalyun, old 'Abra, and Al-Salihiyah fell last night to the Popular Liberation Forces following clashes with the Lebanese Forces. The fighting left eight people martyred. Sixteen others were wounded and evacuated to the Hammud Hospital for treatment. Thus, the last bastion of Ja'ja's group in Sidon and its environs has fallen, and the last vestiges of Israeli occupation in the area have been eliminated.

People in cars cruised the Sidon streets, calling on citizens to donate blood at the Hammud Hospital.

Sources of the Popular Liberation Army in Sidon have stated that the Popular Liberation Forces which freed three towns from the Lebanese Forces, were shelled this morning by nonparty artillery.

The last vestiges of Israeli occupation fell last night in Iqlim al-Kharrub. Clashes took place between Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] forces and the Lebanese Forces, which resulted in the withdrawal of the Ja'Ja' group to Al-Rumaylah. The final purging battles are now taking place there.

All the towns held by the Lebanese Forces have fallen, including Al-Sa'diyat, Al-Jiyah, B'asir, Wadi al-Zaynah, Al-Burjayn, 'Ayn al-Hawr, and Al-Dubbiyah.

Observers have noted that the operation to cleanse Iqlim al-Kharrub of the Lebanese Forces has put the Al-Jiyah power plant outside the framework of the fighting, which had continued in the area since the Israeli invasion and the return of the Lebanese Forces under Israeli protection.

The Popular Liberation Army Command has issued a statement denying that Palestinians have participated in the operation to purge the Sidon environs of remnants belonging to the Lebanese Forces. The command said that this allegation is intended to mislead the Christians and to arouse their feelings. The bankruptcy of the Lebanese Forces, it added, prompted them to announce fabricated reports in this regard. In its statement, the command saluted the Popular Liberation Army martyrs who had fallen in battle.

A PSP official has warned against using the coastal roads leading to Sidon, for they are still mined. He said that specialized PSP military units are removing these mines and any other obstacles impeding traffic.

In a statement which it has issued, the PSP called on the Lebanese Army to assume its duties on the coastal road, pledging not to accost it in any way. It asked the Army to ensure the safety of the citizens along the road to and from liberated Sidon.

Palestinians Enter Towns

NC280920 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Junblatt's followers and dissident Palestinians have entered the towns of Al-Mtullah and 'Alman and the vicinity of Dayr al-Mukhallis and displaced the inhabitants.

According to reports from Iqlim al-Kharrub, over 500 citizens are now surrounded in Al-Jiyah. Approximately 100 other citizens in Al-Sa'diyat are being besieged.

Palestinian groups and extremist Muslim gunmen earlier had entered the towns of old 'Abra, Al-Salihiyah, and Majdalyun, where they looted and burned houses. A short time ago, they entered the towns of Kafr Jarrah, Kifrayya, Lib'a, and Baysur.

'Popular Liberation Army' Statement

NC281243 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] A spokesman for the Popular Liberation Army — the forces of Martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd — has made the following statement:

The Popular Liberation Army forces have continued to liberate the eastern areas of Sidon. It was from these areas that the town of Sidon and the Palestinian camps had been shelled, which resulted in the indiscriminate killing or wounding of hundreds of citizens, particularly women, children, and the elderly. After purging Majdalyun and Al-Salihiyah, the Popular Liberation Forces were violently shelled from the Lebanese Army's Al-Salihiyah Barracks.

The Popular Liberation Army — the forces of Martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd — emphasizes that it has no desire to clash with the Lebanese Army; that, to date, it has adopted a stand of defending the Lebanese Army; and that, by its advance, it seeks to safeguard Christian and Muslim citizens and provide an opportunity for the return of a balanced and national legitimate army. The Popular Liberation Army affirms that it cannot disregard this hostile stand [shelling by Lebanese Army] and that it has communicated this matter to certain national officials, thus giving them

a chance to put an end to this aggression. The Popular Liberation Army also emphasizes that it will deal with this barracks as the safety of its forces and the security of Sidon dictate.

Lahd Threatens Sidon

NC261806 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] A meeting was held in Jazzin today between Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the army of southern Lebanon, and prominent leaders from the Jazzin area. Lahd warned of the consequences involved in the displacement of Christians. He said that if the Palestinians continue their actions, he will shell Sidon.

On the dispatch of the Army to the Jazzin area, he declared that the Army must first bring the security situation in Sidon under control, return the Palestinians to their camps, and help those who have been displaced return to their villages. Only then can the Army's dispatch to Jazzin be considered.

Amal Controls Villages

NC281426 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] With regard to the situation east of Sidon, it has been learned that the Amal movement has taken control of the villages of Baysur, Kafr Jarrah, and Lib'a. Amal forces are now on the outskirts of Al-Salihiyah with the objective of safeguarding the security of the people.

PSP Forces 'Liberate' Areas

NC281821 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Excerpts] The martyr Kamal Junblatt forces, which began liberating Iqlim al-Kharrub from the Phalangists' pockets this morning, have completed the liberation of 'Ayn al-Hawr, Al-Burjayn, Al-Dubbiyah, Dahr al-Magharah, Al-Sa'diyat, Al-Jiyah, Wadi al-Zaynah, and Jadra. Another unit continued the efforts to liberate Majdalyun and Al-Jumayliyah, and has now reached the outskirts of [words indistinct].

The latest reports indicate that Al-Rumaylah Township has been liberated from the Phalangist forces. The report also says that unidentified warplanes flew over the Al-Shahhar region at 1915 today.

According to a report just received, the areas of Al-Mtullah, Mazra'at al-Dahr, Dayr al-Mukhallis, and Jun have fallen into the hands of the martyr Kamal Junblatt forces which are now purging the Phalangists remnants from these villages.

Amal 'Purges' Several Villages

NC281907 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Statement issued on 28 April by Mahmud al-Faqih, Amal movement official for organizational affairs in the south — read by announcer]

[Text] Following a fierce battle with the Lebanese Forces, the Amal movement has assumed full control of Jun, 'Alman, and Dayr al-Mukhallis and is pursuing remnant forces in Bisri. The Lebanese Forces came to the area bringing hell and disaster to the Christians after the Zionist enemy's attempt to cause strife and displace the Christians was frustrated.

We call on all the inhabitants not connected with Israel who had observed the principle of coexistence, to quickly return to their villages and their houses. We also urge all nationalist combatants to demonstrate morality and discipline during the struggle so that our victory over Israel and its agents will be complete.

It should be noted that the Amal movement has purged the villages of Al-Hassaniyah, Baysur, Jinsnaya, 'Ayn al-Mir, Lib'a, Wadi B'anqudin, and Wadi al-Laymun, and has reached Kafr Falus where it has established positions to confront the so-called army of southern Lebanon in that area.

The Amal movement is now present along the coastal line, in Al-Rumaylah, Al-Jiyah, and Al-Sa'diyat, in cooperation with the forces of the Progressive Socialist Party.

Iqlim al-Kharrub 'Liberated'

NC290616 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Excerpt] The Martyr Kamal Junblatt forces have completed their liberation of the Iqlim al-Kharrub from the Phalangist forces, which held it by using abnormal practices, maintaining a coastal siege, and directing sniper fire at innocent people throughout the region's villages, since the initial incursion of the Israeli occupation forces.

Yesterday afternoon, the Martyr Kamal Junblatt forces reached Mtullah, Mazra'at al-Dhar, Dayr al-Mukhallis, Jun, 'Alman and Al-Rumaylah, purging these areas of the Phalangists, who fled from Iqlim al-Kharrub toward Bisri, Jazzin, or Marj 'Uyun, leaving nothing behind but people who curse them for the disasters they produced.

Clashes Occur on Beirut Contact Lines 28 Apr

NC280519 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Regarding the security situation in the capital this morning, clashes involving various types of weapons are taking place along the contact lines there. Shells have fallen deep inside the western areas of Al-Hamra, Al-Sana'i', Al-Qantari, and other unspecified areas. The clashes, which began at midnight, are

continuing. The security authorities concerned are attempting to halt this fighting.

Guarded calm prevails on the new combat lines east of Sidon, and only sporadic bursts of gunfire have been reported.

Reportage on Israeli Activities in South

NC270851 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Israeli occupation forces raided the Township of Yatir yesterday and blew up a house. They also destroyed two cars on the Wadi Jilu-Qana-Tyre Road.

In the Township of 'Aytit, two citizens were detained by the occupation forces. One of these people is 75 years old.

Members of the national resistance have again attacked the Israeli intelligence center in Tyre. Although reports indicated that there were a number of casualties among the center's personnel, Israel has admitted to only four.

In a statement, the National Resistance Front said that some of its members had ambused agent Husayn 'Abd al-Nabi in the Township of (?Bra'shit) and succeeded in hitting him. He was taken to the occupied territory. It was also reported that three of his comrades were killed.

Israelis Complete Tyre Withdrawal

NC291222 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Excerpt] The occupation forces completed their withdrawal from the Tyre District and the entire area outside the border strip at 1145 today. The withdrawals took place on two lines: The first was along the coast. They withdrew from their posts in Al-Qasimiyah and Jall al-Bahr, from their intelligence center, and from other positions. The second was the Jwayyah-Tibnin line. The occupation forces withdrew from Burj al-Shamali, Al-Bazuriyah, Jwayya, Sil'a, and Al-Shihabiyah.

The Lebanese Army and the Amal movement entered the liberated area immediately after the completion of the Israeli withdrawal.

Reportage on Visit of Bulgarian Leader Zhivkov

Zhivkov, Delegation Arrive 28 Apr

JN281200 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] At the invitation of President Hafiz al-Asad, Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and secretary general of the Bulgarian Communist Party's Central Committee, arrived in Damascus at 1130 today on an official visit to Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad led those who welcomed President Zhivkov at Damascus International Airport. Present also at the ramp to welcome the guest were comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Dr Rif'at al-Asad; Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Comrade Sulayman Qaddah, Ba'th Party Regional Command assistant secretary; Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister and chief of the escort delegation, and Taha al-Khayrat, Syrian ambassador in Sofia. The two leaders then proceeded to the dais as the Syrian and Bulgarian national anthems were played. The artillery fired a 21-gun salute in honor of President Zhivkov, and Syrian Air Force planes flew overhead to greet the guest president. The two presidents then inspected the guard of honor which saluted them. President Zhivkov shook hands with those who were at the airport to welcome him. They were members of the Party's national and regional commands, the prime minister's deputies, the ministers, Arab and foreign ambassadors in Damascus, and the staff of the Bulgarian Embassy in Damascus. Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Todor Zhivkov then greeted the Bulgarian community and the masses which crowded the airport and which hailed the two presidents and Syrian-Bulgarian friendship.

Following the reception ceremony, the two presidents proceeded in an official motorcade to the guest palace where the two presidents held a meeting. The meeting was attended by Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister; Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs; Khristo Khristov, Bulgarian Central Committee member and minister of foreign trade; Aleksandur Petkov, candidate member of the Central Committee and chairman of the Central Committee of the National Agro-industrial Union; and (Georgiev Bankov), Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus.

Official Talks Begin 28 Apr

JN281855 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus — Official talks between the Syrian side led by President Hafiz al-Asad and the Bulgarian side led by Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, began at 1930 today. Attending on the Syrian side were 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Dr Rif'at al-Asad, and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice presidents; Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the prime minister; Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister; Dr Muhammad al-Kurdi, minister of agriculture; 'Abd al-Hamid al-Munajjid, minister of state; and Taha Al-Khayrat, ambassador in Sofia. Attending on the Bulgarian side were members of the delegation accompanying Todor Zhivkov.

The talks dealt with bilateral relations and ways to promote them in all fields. The talks will be resumed tomorrow.

Zhivkov, Al-Asad Speak During Awards

JN281926 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] The international Dimitrov prize for 1984 was awarded to President Hafiz al-Asad at 1900 today. Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic, presented the prize on behalf of the Bulgarian State Council, which granted it to the president in appreciation of his struggle in all fields, particularly in the struggle for the Arab cause, and his contribution to world peace.

After reading the text of the decree, President Zhivkov delivered a speech in which he said: Dear Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, it gives me pleasure to present you the international Dimitrov prize for 1984, which the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic has decided to confer upon you. This prize, which carries the name of the Bulgarian people's righteous son Georgi Dimitrov, is awarded to foreign personalities in appreciation of their political and social activities and distinguished participation in the struggle for the cause of peace, democracy, and social progress.

I am very glad, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, that you are among those who carry this sublime prize because you enjoy our people's profound respect. Moreover, ties of friendship and amity have linked me to you for a long time. We also know that you are a prominent political personality in the Syrian Arab Republic; a brave struggler against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction; a respected and awe-inspiring leader in the Arab national liberation front; and a persevering supporter of the development of the Arab countries along the road of independence and social progress.

Tremendous events in the history of the friendly Syrian Arab people have been linked to your name and activity. The Syrian Arab Republic under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party — and you, its secretary general — has proved that it is a respected power in the international sphere as well. Your participation in the Arab peoples' struggle for the establishment of peace in the Middle East is a great contribution to work for the basic welfare of the Arab peoples, headed by the struggling Palestinian people. It is a firm and just peace that expresses these peoples' aspirations, and not the capitulatory peace that comes at the expense of Arab peoples, headed by the Palestinian Arab people.

I would also like to pay tribute to your personal role and efforts as president of the Syrian Arab Republic for the sake of achieving understanding and cooperation among states regardless of their social system. This role has an increasing importance in the current complicated international situation where imperialist policy poses a serious threat to world peace since it spreads over

mankind the threat of nuclear annihilation. Your role is very large in the field of consolidating and deepening the relations of sincere friendship between the Bulgarian People's Republic and the Syrian Arab Republic, and developing bilateral cooperation in the field of politics, economy, and culture. The Bulgarian people consider you an honest and great friend. When I present this prize to you, I couple it with my wishes to you, dear comrade, for good health, happiness, and success in your large task and responsibility for the welfare of the friendly Syrian people, for the subsequent deepening of friendship between our two countries, and for the triumph of the cause of peace in the world. Congratulations.

In a reply speech, President Hafiz al-Asad said: It gives me pleasure to carry the international Dimitrov prize for 1984 because Dimitrov is the great man and righteous son of the Bulgarian People's Republic who struggled and laid the foundation for the establishment of socialism in Bulgaria as a just system that achieves the Bulgarian masses' aspiration. This significant prize symbolizes a great friendship between Bulgaria and Syria. I consider it a great tribute from you and from the friendly Bulgarian people to our people in Syria, on whose side you stand and whose glorious struggle for a just peace is supported by you.

O friend, your stand as well as the stand of the Bulgarian people under your leadership on our side in the struggle we are waging is considered cogent proof of the principled, ethical course you are following — a course which emphasizes Bulgaria's persevering work for a just peace to be established here and everywhere on the basis of rejecting every invasion and resisting every colonialist expansion, particularly the most serious expansion represented in the colonialist invasion being practiced by world Zionism, whose base is Israel, through the support of the United States, without any political or ethical restrictions or controls. Therefore, we find that our Arab people everywhere in Syria, Lebanon, and Palestine were struck and that attempts are made to seize their territory with U.S. weapons that are extended through U.S. funds and political cover. However, justice will continue to be our effective weapon with which we can repulse every injustice. We will regain our usurped territory and rights by preparing our people in the proper way, by organizing our masses, and by promoting the militant national awakening which our citizens enjoy in a manner that calls for pride.

We are confident that we have strong friends in the socialist bloc. Bulgaria, with its people, party, and leadership, is a loyal friend of our people. We and you, friend Todor Zhivkov, have a joint strong friend that constitutes a major base for the peoples' struggle for their freedom, independence, and independent growth. It is the Soviet Union, which strongly stands on our side and supports us on the basis of the principles to which it adheres regarding freedom, resistance of invasion, and establishment of a just peace that rejects all forms of invasion and exploitation.

I can affirm that, through our faith in the justice of our cause, through our people's vigilance and appropriate preparation, and through the strengthening of honest and sincere cooperation between us and our friends in the socialist countries, we will prevent all greedy ones from achieving their ambitions, repulse all invaders who violate all international laws and norms and who destroy the gains man has achieved throughout his long struggle for justice, freedom, and equality, and establish a just, honorable peace with which the feelings of injustice are eliminated and all the possibilities of invasion and success of hostile outlooks are toppled.

O Comrade, our people will continue to highly appreciate your support and stand on their side in defending their rights against invasion. While I consider the Dimitrov prize a tribute to our people, I also view it as another factor that contributes to promoting friendship and cooperation between our two friendly countries. We will work together to promote our two people's joint interests. The old ties of friendship between me and you, O friend, will enable us to achieve this. I repeat my thanks to you, Comrade Zhivkov, and to you, comrade members of the Bulgarian delegation. Please convey my greetings and thanks to the members of the State Council in the Bulgarian People's Republic. Finally, I wish you success and a good stay in our country and among our people, who harbor love and respect for you. Thank you.

Al-Asad Addresses Banquet

JN290543 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2020 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Speech by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad at a dinner banquet in honor of Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov in Damascus on 28 April — recorded]

[Text] Esteemed Chairman Todor Zhivkov, dear Bulgarian friends, gentlemen. In Syria today, we welcome a struggling leader and the head of a friendly state with whom we have a personal relationship and with whose country we have strong, friendly relations. On behalf of our people, our Party's leadership, and on my own behalf, I warmheartedly welcome the dear friend, Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, and our friends the members of the Bulgarian delegation.

Esteemed Chairman, your struggle to build socialism in Bulgaria and to serve the friendly interests of the Bulgarian people as well as your efforts and stands in support of the cause of liberation and peace in the world are well known. They are respected and held in esteem by our people, who harbor purely friendly sentiments toward the Bulgarian people. We in Syria highly appreciate the principled stands that the People's Republic of Bulgaria under your leadership continues to adopt in support of our struggle to confront the aggressive imperialist and Zionist plots, which are aimed against the Arab land, our rights, and our destiny. Our people also appreciate your country's sincere cooperation in implementing a number of projects in our country.

I am certain that the friendly sentiments between our two peoples are mutual and deep-rooted. I have not forgotten the happy days that we spent in Bulgaria, during which the Bulgarian people expressed to us their generous sentiments of love and warm welcome. Our visits to Bulgaria allowed us to witness the landmarks of the large-scale, great progress that your industrious people have realized under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, which is headed by you, in the various fields of

development: industry, agriculture, and science. We extend to you heartfelt congratulations on your achievements and wish you continued success in this field.

I would like to voice our immense satisfaction in Syria with the increasing, expanding development of relations between our two countries. The promotion of friendly relations between the Syrian Arab Republic and the People's Republic of Bulgaria and between the two peoples, the two governments, and the two parties in the various fields, including the two governments, and the two parties in the various fields, including the fields of economic, cultural, and technical cooperation, has realized benefits for our people and our joint struggle.

Esteemed Chairman, our meetings in Damascus and Sofia have lent permanent momentum to the development in our countries' relations of friendship and cooperation. Our meetings have become a fruitful tradition that realizes further development and growth in these relations. I would like to express my conviction that our present meeting, just like the previous meetings, will give a new, strong momentum to Syrian-Bulgarian cooperation. I am certain that the documents that we will sign at the end of our current meeting will confirm this optimism.

Esteemed chairman, our current meeting takes place during an escalation in the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plot against the Arab nation. This escalation is coupled with an increase in international tension as a result of the U.S. insistence on practicing a policy of military power and adhering to a hostile attitude toward all peoples who seek freedom, independence, and a way of life that ensures progress and prevents exploitation. Wherever we look in world regions, we find evidence of this.

The U.S. position vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli struggle gives clear evidence of this policy. It has become evident that the United States is neither seeking a just solution to this conflict nor a genuine peace in this region, but rather is seeking to ensure the aggressive Zionist interests through ensuring the aggressive interests of Israel, its spoiled ally in this region. No other ally can vie with Israel in winning the trust and confidence of the United States. This is confirmed by the U.S. officials themselves. It has become evident that the United States rejects and resists any solution in this region unless it is American, although the U.S. road will inevitably lead to Israeli domination and to capitulation by those who agree to walk along this road. U.S. policy, which is based on the strategic alliance with Israel, is responsible for the continuation of our people's ordeal in Lebanon and for the prolongation of our Palestinian Arab people's suffering. This policy is ignoring facts and rights. It conforms to the belief that it is possible to terrorize people by armed force. It does not want to believe that people who are determined to restore their rights cannot be terrorized and that eventually these people will triumph because they are in the right and because they sacrifice and struggle for their rights.

We seek and support a just peace in this region and we are working to ensure the elements and guarantees of this peace. These are: first, a strategic balance between us and Israel; and second, an international conference under UN auspices with USSR and U.S. participation, based on adherence to the Fes summit resolutions. Any other path or program for peace will only be an anti-Arab scheme and a cause of new, fiercer, and more tragic wars that will make the chance for peace more remote. We in Syria will not hesitate to carry out our duties toward our struggler friends, the people of Lebanon and our Palestinian people. We will continue to back them and support their struggle against and resistance of the occupation forces. We are confident that the policy that relies on those who call for surrender will fail, because people reject surrender and will not make peace with those who walk the path of capitulation.

Esteemed Chairman, dear friends, gentlemen. We are aware that the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the other socialist states, led by the friendly USSR, are following a principled peaceful policy aimed at realizing world detente, expanding cooperation among world states, limiting the arms race, and preventing the outbreak of a nuclear war. Preserving mankind and saving it from this danger is the duty of all honorable people in the world. We support the Soviet proposals that are offered to realize these aims and to ward off the threat of nuclear missiles from Europe. We also support Bulgaria's proposal for making the Balkan Peninsula a zone that is free from nuclear weapons.

We are continuously working to strengthen our relations with the socialist states in all fields. The Eighth Ba'th Party Regional Congress affirmed this line in our foreign policy.

While once again reiterating my conviction that our current meeting will realize the positive results that we hope for, I wish you a happy stay in our country and express to you, my dear friend, and to the Bulgarian State Council my gratitude for the Dimitrov prize for peace, democracy, and social progress, with which you decorated me today and which I have accepted with pride and consider as an honor to our people.

In conclusion, I again greet you dear friend, Todor Zhivkov, and wish you health, happiness and a long life. I wish our guests, the Bulgarian delegation members, good health and success and hope that the Syrian-Bulgarian friendship will continue to be promoted. I wish all those who are present here good health and happiness.

Zhivkov Addresses Banquet

JN290836 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2031 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Speech by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, at a dinner banquet in his honor in Damascus on 28 April — read by announcer]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, comrades and friends.

To begin with, I would like to express my sincere thanks and those of my companions for the invitation that you extended to me to visit friendly Syria once again. We are grateful for the warm welcome that was accorded to us — a welcome which expresses the traditional cordial relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Syrian Arab Republic. I am pleased to point out that over the past 15 years, these relations witnessed immense progress and assumed great significance. Our cooperation in the

political field is also developing. Our economic relations are assuming various new forms that are more modern and effective. The cultural exchange between us is being developed and enriched. It forms a basic pillar for exploring new potentialities and aspects for cooperation between our two countries in all walks of life. I would like to express our joint conviction that our current meetings and talks will enable us to find means and methods to exploit the available resources in a more effective manner.

Syrian friends, as you are aware, the Bulgarian people harbor profound respect for the heroic Syrian people, who have recently celebrated the 39th anniversary of their national independence. We are pleased with your successful development and achievements in the various fields of social life, making Syria a prestigious power in the Middle East and on the international level. In particular we are following the profound social transformations in your country and the building of your new life under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Progressive National Front under your leadership.

Dear Comrades, recently, we in Bulgaria celebrated the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution, which transformed Bulgaria into a state with dynamic industrial development and modern agricultural economy under the Bulgarian Communist Party. Our people are looking forward to the Party's 13th congress, which will lay down plans for the new approaches in building the developed socialist society. The great aims for whose realization we are planning, cannot be realized except under the shadow of peace. The People's Republic of Bulgaria is true to its principled external political line. It is continuously struggling to realize disarmament and peace in the world and establish cooperation for mutual benefit among states of various social systems. We are firmly working to establish and entrench trust and effect good neigborliness in our region, the Balkan Peninsula. In order to realize this noble objective, we direct our initiatives toward transforming the Balkan region into a zone free from nuclear weapons.

Respected comrades, our current meeting takes place at a sensitive time with regard to the future of mankind. During our times the question is whether we apply the rules of peaceful coexistence or head for nuclear annihilation. We are profoundly certain that in order to preserve mankind, there is no alternative to living in peace, security, and cooperation. We are deeply concerned that certain imperialist circles are continuing to wager on the policy of force and domination in international relations. They are accelerating their material preparations for a new war. Their projects to deploy weapons in outer space are increasing the threat of a nuclear disaster. In this respect, we appreciate the importance of the talks that are being held in Geneva between the USSR and the United States on nuclear and space [kawniyah] weapons and consider them to be necessary and timely talks.

As is evident from the results of the first round, the future of these talks depends on the extent of the U.S. respect for what is agreed on, as well as on the political determination to effect a realistic step toward reaching an agreement on these most important issues. Therefore, we welcome the unilateral halt in deploying medium-range missiles, which was announced by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, the general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and the halt to countermeasures against actions [al-af'al] in Europe.

We welcome these steps as far-sighted measures that will help the negotiations succeed. A few days ago, we signed a protocol to extend the validity of the Warsaw Pact. This action has historical significance. This protocol constitutes a document of historic significance and expresses the Warsaw treaty states' determination to strongly defend the interests of security, peace, and socialism. Life's experience has proven that the existence of the Warsaw treaty constitutes, in itself, a form of support for peoples that fight against imperialist domination, neocolonialism, and Zionism, and promotes independence and social progress. During our presence in Warsaw, we affirmed our determination to firmly struggle to realize peaceful co-existence among states of various social systems and to develop ties and cooperation among all peoples of the world. We reiterated our readiness to simultaneously cancel the Warsaw treaty and the NATO aggressive bloc [al-kutlah al-'udwaniyah]. However, as long as the NATO alliance exists, the Warsaw treaty will remain the impregnable, safe shield for the socialist states and world peace.

As is well knwon, it is not us, the socialist states, that divided Europe into military alliances, but we were forced to unify our efforts to confront NATO's aggressive bloc and the practical, expanding imperialist threats.

Dear Syrian friends, the Middle East continues to form a field for practicing the aggressive, expansionist policy of the most reactionary Israeli circles and their supporters in the United States. This policy entailed great suffering for many Arab peoples as well as for the heroic Palestinian people. Attempts at activting and expanding the Camp David policy are meant to impose a Middle East peace aimed at expansion, control, and domination, and to force a peace against the Arabs' vital interests — a peace which ignores the rights of the Palestinians, including their right to establish a state of their own.

As for the policy of the socialist group , it is just the opposite of the above policy. I would like to express our deep conviction that the 29 June 1984 USSR initiative constitutes a constructive and extremely serious plan to find a comprehensive, just, and durable solution to the Middle East problem.

We highly appreciate Syria's persevering, principled policy, which is opposed to imperialism. We also highly appreciate Syria's efforts and active, effective struggle to confront imperialist and Zionist plans in the region. At the same time, I would like to point out that the friendship and cooperation between the Syrian Arab Republic and the socialist states are an additional means of recognizing your most sincere and honest friends and those who are your allies in defending the interests, independence, and sovereignty of the Arab peoples.

Dear Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, I am sure you will share with me the view that the constructive, frank spirit that dominated our negotiations, the identity of our views on the basic issues of our age, our mutual understanding, and our joint endeavors to entrench ties between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Syrian Arab Republic as well as between the Bulgarian Commu-

nist Party and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, constitute the basic outlines of all the meetings we had since 1972. We view our current official visit to friendly Syria as a new aspect of the cordial relations between our two countries. We are convinced that the treaty of friendship and cooperation that we will sign will raise the relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Syrian Arab republic to a new, higher level. This treaty will reveal new horizons for entrenching and expanding fruitful cooperation and mutual benefit in our people's interest and in the interest of peace and understanding in the world.

Allow me to drink to the friendly Syrian people's happiness and prosperity, the future development of Bulgarian-Syrian friendship and cooperation, and to peace and understanding among peoples. Allow me to drink to the health of Bulgaria's great friend, the winner of the international Dimitrov prize, the esteemed secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the president of the Syrian Arab Republic, and my dear personal friend Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. I also drink to the health of all of you.

Al-Asad, Lebanon's Al-Jumayyil Discuss Sidon

JN261818 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil today. Talk revolved around the situation in Sidon and how to end the fighting raging there. The president affirmed to President al-Jumayyil that Syria will exert every possible effort to stop the fighting.

President al-Asad Meets Palestinian Front Leaders

JN271139 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received a Palestine National Salvation Front delegation at 1145 today. The delegation consisted of [former] PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum; [former] PLO Executive Committee members 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Muhammad Khalifah, and Talal Naji; and the secretaries general and leading members of Palestinian groups: Dr George Habash, 'Isam al-Qadi, Ahmad Jibril, Dr Samir Ghawshah, Colonel Abu Musa, Samih Abu Kuwayk Qadri, Tal'at Ya'qub, Abu 'Ali Mustafa, and Khalid 'Abd al-Majid.

Further Report

JN271425 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received a Palestine National Salvation Front delegation at 1145 today.

The talks revolved around the Arab and international moves in the region as well as the situation in the Lebanese arena and the latest developments in the Palestinian arena in light of the suspect moves by the deviant faction.

The president greeted the Palestine National Salvation Front and its important role in the Arab Palestinians' struggle to achieve their national rights. He asserted that Syria will continue its firm support for the Palestinian people and their revolution proceeding from its belief in the unity of common destiny and the importance of Syrian-Palestinian militant cohesion in the face of the attempts aimed at liquidating the Arab Palestinian people's cause.

The president expressed his optimism about the future. He said: The pan-Arab popular awakening expressed in southern Lebanon and the occupied territory proves that our nation is capable of offering sacrifices and achieving victory.

Symposium On Victory Over Facism Ends 25 April

JN260825 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The works of the symposium that *AL-MAHJ* Magazine held under the slogan "The Struggle of the Arab National Liberation Movement Is Escalating Against Imperialism, Zionism, Facism, and Aggression For the Sake of Peace and Progress" concluded yesterday evening. The symposium was held on the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism. The Closing ceremony was attended by Comrade Muhammad Khalifah, member of the Ba'th Party National Command; Comrade Ahmad Dirgham, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command; some members of the Progressive National Front Central Command; a number of leaders of the Palestinian revolution factions; and representatives of the Lebanese national resistance.

At the beginning of the session, Comrade Richard Kosolapov, chief of the Soviet delegation, delivered a speech in which he said: I express deep thanks to the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its command for convening this symposum in the city of Damascus, the capital of Syria, which is struggling against imperialist and Zionist schemes. He referred to the big role that the Arab national liberation movement is playing in the confrontation of the schemes that are hostile to people's struggle for their freedom.

Several speeches were delivered at the session. The speeches indicated that convening this symposium in Damascus has a special significance in this phase of our people's struggle. This is because of the prominent role Syria is playing in our region in the confrontation of imperialism, Zionism, and the capitulationist plans. This makes Syria a base for the struggle of all nationalists and progressive people. The speeches denounced the suspect moves of the symbols of the reactionary Cairo-Amman- Baghdad axis, and hailed Syria's steadfastness and the Lebanese national movement factions' accomplishments in confronting the Zionist invasion and striking at the pillars of U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

The participants to the symposium sent a message of love, greetings, and solidarity to comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad. They also sent several greetings and solidarity decisions in support of peoples' struggle for the sake of progress and peace.

Al-Ahmar Meets CPSU Delegation

JN261228 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and the CPSU delegation led by Comrade Richard Kosolapov, CPSU Central Committee member and editor in chief of the CPSU Central Committee magazine, have reviewed the developing relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the CPSU. They also reviewed the region's tense situation as a result of Israel's aggression, and the imperialist and Zionist schemes that aim at fomenting conflicts and imposing hegemony and domination.

Comrade al-Ahmar stressed Syria's determination to confront the imperialist and Zionist schemes in the region. Talks also revolved around the 40th anniversary of the victory over facism, the great and important role that the Soviet peoples assumed in achieving this victory, and the sacrifices they made for the sake of this victory. Comrade Kosolapov reiterated his country's support for the Arab cause and for Syria's national anti-imperialist course. He said: We are waging one world battle against the policy of imperialist hegemony. We are natural allies of the world liberation forces, which we will always support until they realize their objectives.

Minister of State Confers With Bulgaria's Ganev

JN261915 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs, received Ivan Ganev, Bulgarian deputy minister of foreign affairs, who is currently visiting the country, this morning. During the meeting, talks centered on bilateral relations and the Arab and international situation in light of the Zionist and imperialist schemes in the region.

Jabir al-Kafri, director of the East Europe Department at the Foreign Ministry, and the Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Assistant Secretary Receives Bulgaria's Pavlov

JN271620 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Comrade Dr Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received Comrade Lyubomir Pavlov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian-Syrian friendship society, and the accompanying delegation this morning. Comrade Qaddah explained to the guest delegation the dimensions of the developments in the Arab arena, particularly following the attempts of the agent reactionary regimes in Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq to cooperate with the rightist 'Arafatist clique — attempts aimed at imposing capitulation and U.S. hegemony on the Arab region and liquidating the Palestine question.

Damascus Radio Reports Murphy Visit to Israel

JN261321 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Occupied Palestine — Zionist enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres met with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy in occupied Palestine today. The enemy's radio said that Murphy acquainted Peres with the results of his talks with officials in Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Syria. They also discussed the possibility of adding suspect Palestinian personalities to the Jordanian delegation to negotiate with Israel.

In another development, the Zionist newspaper *HA'ARETZ* said today that Murphy will meet with a number of suspect Palestinian personalities that are pro-Jordanian and pro-Egyptian to discuss Jordan's initiative to form a Jordanian-'Arafatist joint delegation that will embark on direct negotiations with the Zionist enemy.

On the same level, the correspondent for the Zionist newspaper *YEDI'OT AHARONOT*, who visited the Jordanian royal palace at the beginning of this month, said today that he met with senior officials in the Jordanian regime. The enemy radio cited the correspondent as saying that the Jordanian regime has decided to proceed on the road of settlement and negotiation with Israel. He said that his meetings with the Jordanian officials were held at the Raghadan Palace where King Husayn and his brother Prince Hasan reside.

Radio Commentary on Murphy Mission, U.S. Policy

JN271301 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy continues his tour of the Middle East under the slogan of helping to reactivate the peace process. Although Murphy rarely speaks about his mission and talks, he has made a statement or two about the objectives of his mission and the difficulties he faced in Damascus. In these statements, he tried to give the impression that the United States is indeed trying to promote the peace process in the region and to help the parties concerned in the dispute to reach the negotiation table.

Richard Murphy is a clever American diplomat who knows the region and its problems very well, and who understands the causes of the existing problems and difficulties. He may also hold personal convictions which are not completely in tune with his government's policy, but which he may want to express only after leaving official service, just as many other American officials have done before. However, he is currently engaged in publicizing the Reagan administrations's commodity. In other words, he is neither a policymaker nor the party that can make any changes in this policy — hence the difficulties he is facing in the region. We say the region, because we mean the masses and not just the regimes.

Despite all of Murphy's tactfulness, the policy he is publicizing, which was propounded by Secretary of State George Shultz on

21 April, is based on unilaterally inviting the Arabs to come to the table of direct negotiations and to relinquish the principles of the UN Charter and resolutions concerning the Middle East in the name of avoiding outright conditions. The U.S. Administration's policy is to avoid any responsibility such as entering as a partner, guarantor, or a party in the negotiations.

More than that, the U.S. Administration places the foundations of peace, headed by the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied territories, in doubt. It also ignores the natural UN role and the international conference the United Nations has called for with the participation of all parties concerned.

A policy with such foundations as those expressed by Shultz — and before that by President Reagan — conflicts with the interests of the Arabs, the will of the Arab masses, and the resolutions of the United Nations, despite U.S. officials' deliberate use of misleading names, words, and expressions such as the Palestinian role, the Golan, the settlements, the West Bank, and so on. A U.S. policy with such substance and foundations is bound to reach a deadlock, even if it succeeds in guiding 'Arafat and Husayn to the negotiations table under U.S. and Israeli conditions. This is because unilateral and partial solutions cannot lead to peace, security, and a viable settlement. The Camp David accords are a good example. Any settlement in the region requires a unified Arab stand. Such a stand will only be possible if based on the recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's right to self-determination and Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories. The Fes summit resolution reflects such a stand. Why then is the United States ignoring this resolution?

Minister Shamir Criticizes Reagan Trip to FRG

TA281934 Tel Aviv ITIM In Hebrew 1852 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 28 apr (ITIM) — Vice Prime Minister And Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today expressed his regret at U.S. President Ronald Reagan's decision to visit the military cemetery in Germany where Nazi SS soldiers are buried. "President Reagan has made a mess of things because he was given unsound advice, and I regret very much this lack of understanding and error by the President, who — along with his administration — has been more friendly toward Israel than any other president or administration," Minister Shamir said.

Minister Shamir was appearing at a rally of immigrants in Bet Jabotinsky in Tel Aviv in preparation for the Histadrut election. He asked that people not forget what the United States has done for Israel. The United States has frankly told the Soviet Union that relations between the two superpowers will not improve until the Soviets improve their relations with the Jews. He also recalled that the United states had helped bring the Ethiopian immigrants to Israel.

At the same time, the foreign minister said, we do not agree with the United States on the matters of Israel's borders, the status of Jerusalem, and the U.S. President's scheduled visit to Germany; but relations with the United States are good and it was the Likud that established these relations, he said.

Mr Shamir said that Israel's Foreign Ministry has no fears now when anti-Israeli views are heard in the international arena because the United States will veto any anti-Israeli resolution.

In this context, he also recalled the establishment of the free trade zone, which is opening up the enormous U.S. market to industry in Israel.

Speaking about relations with Egypt, the foreign minister said that "when you live in peace with someone, you cannot let him walk all over you. There must be peace on the basis of mutual respect. We have to defend Israel's interests."

Referring to Egypt's claim to ownership over the Tabah area, the foreign minister said Israel has claims against Egypt, such as the incitement against Israel in the Egyptian press and the absence of commercial and tourism relations between the two countries.

Peres Terms Reagan Bitburg Visit 'Ill-Advised'

TA290908 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 29 Apr 85 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] Last night, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres broke his silence on the issue of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's visit to the cemetery at Bitburg and called on the FRG Government "to follow through on its historical responsibility and release Reagan of his ill-advised promise" to visit the cemetery.

In a television program broadcast directly from Tel Aviv to Jewish community centers in the United States, Peres said: "A friend is a friend and a mistake is a mistake, but a friend remains a friend even when he makes a mistake."

Commenting on the fact that Israel has so far abstained from issuing an official reaction to the affair, the prime minister said: "There was very strong reaction throughout the world and there was no need to create the impression that we had masterminded it. Our feelings about visiting the graves of SS soldiers are very well known to everybody."

Government Approves Establishing Inner Cabinet

TA281030 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] The government this morning approved the setting up of a 10-man Inner Cabinet with five members from each of the two major parties in the coalition, the Labor Alignment and the Likud. The new body will deal with foreign affairs, defense, settlement, and any other issue referred to it by either the prime minister or his deputy.

Health Minister Mordekhay Gur and Economics Minister Gad Ya'aqobi, both of the Alignment, opposed the decision, and Yosef Burg, minister of religious affairs, complained it had no National Religious Party representative. Minister Without Portfolio Yosef Shapira protested in his name and that of Interior Minister Yitzhaq Peretz, who is abroad, that the new body contained no religious minister even in an advisory capacity.

Meanwhile, Health Minister Gur has said he will support moves to set up a committee of inquiry into the war in Lebanon. Speaking on the Voice of Israel's news this morning, the minister said that new information has reached him which convinces him of the need for an inquiry. Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein was scheduled to make a formal request at today's Cabinet meeting that a commission to probe the war be set up. Citizens Rights Movement Knesset Member Yosi Sarid, who sits on the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, was today asking Knesset members to pledge their support for such a commission.

Peres on Inner Cabinet

TA281645 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] After the Cabinet decided to establish an Inner Cabinet, the prime minister said that in the future the main discussions on security affairs would still be held in the Cabinet plenum. This has been reported by our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer. Shim'on Peres said that only issues that could jeopardize the Cabinet's unity would be brought to the inner Cabinet.

Procedures, Members Detailed

TA281758 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] The Cabinet today approved the establishment of an Inner Cabinet. Dan Eisenberg reports:

The Inner Cabinet will be authorized to discuss foreign affairs, defense, and settlement issues, and any other topic brought to it

by either the prime minister or the deputy prime minister. Its meetings and proceedings will be secret. Cabinet ministers who do not belong to the Inner Cabinet will not be given copies of the protocols of its meetings. Unlike regular ministerial committees, the decisions of the Inner Cabinet will come into force immediately. Other ministers will be allowed to appeal decisions made by the Inner Cabinet, but will not be able to delay their implementation. On paper, at least, the Inner Cabinet has been given substantial power. One of the opponents of today's decision, Mordekhay Gur, says that the Inner Cabinet will become the government to all intents and purposes. The other man who voted against today's decision, Gad Ya'aqobi, said that the powers given to the Inner Cabinet challenge the concept of collective responsibility upon which government in Israel is based. Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein abstained in today's vote and called for two changes in the proposal.

[Begin Rubinstein recording] One is with regard to the right of a minister to appeal the decisions of the Cabinet which are not related to foreign affairs and security, and the other one relates to the capacity of the government to deal with matters which the Cabinet deals with which are not matters of security and foreign affairs. [end recording]

The Cabinet appointed two ministers, Nisim and Shahal, to look into all the reservations and suggestions presented today. Rubinstein believes the final draft defining the Inner Cabinet's powers will take his suggestions into account, but a government official said that the proposal presented to the Cabinet today is the same as the one included in the coalition agreement and therefore it is unlikely that Nisim and Shahal will make any changes. The composition of the Inner Cabinet is to be formally approved next week. Here, too, it's unlikely there will be any changes in the proposed lineup, which includes Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Rabin, 'Ezer Weizman, Yitzhaq Navon, and Hayim Bar-Lev for the Alignment and its partners, and Yitzhaq Shamir, David Levi, Ari'el Sharon, Yitzhaq Moda'i, and Moshe Arens for the Likud.

Reportage on Visit of Assistant Secretary Murphy

Peres Receives Murphy

TA261037 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 26 apr 85

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy met this morning with Prime Minister Peres and Foreign Minister Shamir. Murphy reported on his visit to the Arab countries in the past few days.

Prime Minister Peres informed Murphy that Israel has decided to deploy its troops along the international border, and it would be up to Lebanon to determine whether the border will be quiet.

On the question of negotiations with Jordan, the prime minister said the contacts with Murphy would continue. Peres told him that the Palestinian problem could be solved, but there could be no negotiations with the PLO.

The U.S. envoy arrived yesterday from Beirut. He has also been in Syria, Egypt, and Jordan, and is to meet tomorrow in Aqaba with Jordanian King Husayn once again. Murphy returns to the United States on Monday.

Rabin, Murphy Discuss Lebanon

TA261614 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin conferred with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy this afternoon. The two discussed affairs connected with Lebanon. Our military correspondent has learned that the meeting was also attended by the chief of staff and the director general of the Foreign Ministry.

The U.S. envoy is currently on his way to a meeting with King Husayn in Jordan.

Murphy told Prime Minister Peres and Foreign Minister Shamir today that there was no response in the Arab capitals to his efforts in connection with the establishment of a Jordanian- Palestinian delegation. He said that Syria is not at all interested in the Middle East process.

Jerusalem now believes that Mr Murphy will not return to Israel during this round of talks.

Murphy, Palestinians Discuss Peace

TA280935 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 Apr 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by David Richardson and Michael Eilan]

[Excerpts] A group of West Bank and Gaza Palestinian leaders has suggested that the U.S. Government issue a statement recognizing the Palestinians' right to self-determination as a way to tempt PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat into the Middle East peace process.

The suggestion was raised at a meeting between 11 prominent Palestinian mayors, businessmen and journalists and visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy on Friday evening at the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem.

From Murphy's briefing with the Palestinian leaders it was clear, according to various sources present at the meeting in East Jerusalem, that the success of the initiative appears to hinge on the PLO's approval of the joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation for talks with the U.S. and eventually for negotiations with Israel.

Several of the Palestinian participants in the Friday evening meeting raised the idea of a U.S. statement recognizing the Palestinians' right of self-determination. This statement could be tied to the idea of a confederation with Jordan and should be interpreted in a way that would link it to UN Resolution 242, they urged.

According to several of the Palestinians present, this would be enough to draw 'Arafat into approving the joint delegation.

Some of the Palestinians went so far as to say that they would personally go to 'Arafat to persuade him to accept such a statement from the U.S. as the only way to get out of the current impasse. There were mixed opinions among the Palestinians who met Murphy on Friday night. Some dismissed the meeting as "unimportant," since in their view he had failed to bring about any agreement on 'Arafat's inability to win support for the idea of a joint-delegation which would not, at this stage include members of the organization. Others however said "there are still possibilities" and that Murphy's visit left them "closer to optimism than pessimism." Among the Palestinians who attended the meeting were Abu Zalaf, former Gaza mayor Rashad al-Shawwa, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, former mayor of Hebron Mustafa al-Natshah, Hebron businessman Khalid 'Assali, Wahid al-Masri and Sa'id Kan'an who repre.ent two leading Nablus families, Jerusalem businessmen 'Uthman Halaq, Fayiz Abu Rahmah of Gaza, Jerusalem journalist Ziyad Abu Ziyad and Ramallah pharmacist Jad Mikha'il.

Village Leagues Protest Non-Invitation

TA261050 Tel aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 26 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] The Area Village Leagues in the Tulkarm, Janin, and Hebron Districts have drawn up petitions signed by their supporters, in which they protest the fact that the U.S. Consulate did not invite their leaders to the talks with U.S. Diplomat Richard Murphy. A delegation of area village league leaders will try to be received today in the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem in order to personally present the petition. The petition says that the Village Leagues support the peace proposals which the Americans are trying to advance, and that they are backed by more people than are those notables who were invited for the Murphy talks.

Murphy Conveys Syrian Promise

TA290933 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Apr 85 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The Syrians promise to contribute to maintaining stability in lebanon and to prevent Shi'ites and terrorists under their control from carrying out attacks against Israel if the latter gives up on the army of southern Lebanon which is subordinate to and controlled by the IDF. These remarks were made by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy in his latest meeting with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir over the weekend. Murphy emphasized that the Syrian leaders he met had told him that they perceive the existence of a security zone in southern Lebanon as a prolongation of Israel's presence in Lebanon, and they therefore intend to ensure that it is eliminated.

IDF Spokesman Announces Withdrawal From Tyre

TA291143 Jerusalem Domestic Service In Hebrew 1141 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] At last we have the official announcement about the IDF withdrawal from the Tyre area. The IDF spokesman issued a communique a short time ago stating that henceforth the IDF troops will be deployed within the security zone until the conclusion of the redeployment.

Rabin on Current Deployment Line, Syria

TA270903 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0705 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin interviewed by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal in Al-Nabatiyah "this week" — recorded]

[Text][Tal] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said that for the time being, as long as the IDF is deployed in the security strip, the northern settlements are still beyond the range of the katyushas.

[Rabin] In this section, at this stage of the IDF deployment, if we control the terrain in this sector, the settlements are not within the range of the katyushas' fire. As long as we are along the Al-Litani, too, the settlements will not be within range. It is possible in a certain section, but that has already been in existence for almost 2 weeks. I mean the Al-Nabatiyah area. I believe that, here and there, voices can be heard among a section of the Lebanese public — undoubtedly among that section of the public whose primary interest was that no external element should control their territory — and I mean mainly the Shi'ites who acted against the IDF because the IDF was in Lebanon. I hope their motivation will decrease. I very much hope that, just as they did in West Beirut, they will not permit the PLO terrorists to return and take control. They did so last week in Beirut. I very much hope that, just as happened in Al-Nabatiyah, this is what will happen throughout the western sector, where the Shi'ites are strong.

[Tal] Why is there any need to wait any longer, during the next few weeks, and not implement the withdrawal right now, today, as far as the international border? Why do we need this extra period of time?

[Rabin] As I see it, the reason is composed of two primary considerations. One is the time needed to deploy in the security zone. The second is that in this sector, we still need to be on a line where we will be able to examine what the Syrian trend is, because, as I said earlier, there has not been any coordination between us and the Syrians, in any form whatsoever.

Rabin on 'Tragedy' of Lebanese Christians

TA290841 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 29 Apr 85 pp 1, 2

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Eytan Haber, Arye Tzimuqi, and Yehoshu'a Halamish on 29 April; place not given]

[Text] "We will extend humanitarian aid to the victims of the lebanese tragedy but we will refrain from intervening in Lebanon's domestic problems," Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* last night. Rabin added: "Israel's position will continue to be based on the Cabinet's decision to focus on one and only one issue, and that is Israel's security.

Therefore, we will continue to carry out the Cabinet's decisions through our deployment along the international border."

According to the defense minister, "what is happening these days in Lebanon, in the areas evacuated by the IDF, illustrates the tragedy of the Christians in Lebanon who overestimated their situation, status, and actions."

Rabin also addressed himself to the Christian world and said: "The time has come for the Christian world — first and foremost the West European countries — to take some action in order to prevent the annihilation of the Christian community in Lebanon."

Reportage on Events, Activities in South Lebanon

Maronites Receive Call for Help

TA261617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The head of the Maronite sect in Israel, Archbishop Augustine Harfush, has received an urgent call for help for the Christian refugees in Lebanon, who are in need of food and blankets. The archbishop told our correspondent that the Maronites in Israel cannot extend any more help to their brethren in Lebanon. The head of the Maronite sect in Israel will depart for Tyre early next week to meet there with the Maronite bishop of southern Lebanon.

IDF: Withdrawal Shortened

TA270816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Major General Hayim Erez, the head of the IDF Logistic Branch in the General Staff Headquarters, has told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that the second phase of the withdrawal, which was completed this week, was shortened to a month as a result of the good weather and vigorous work by the soldiers who implemented the withdrawal.

General Lahd in Jazzin

TA270921 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] The commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL], General Antoine Lahd, has gone to Jazzin and he is now organizing the absorption of the thousands of Christian refugees from the Sidon area. The ASL General Staff Headquarters has told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that Gen Lahd has also reinforced his soldiers' positions near Jazzin. Our correspondent was also told that the refugees continue to stream in and they are arriving in Jazzin with nothing but what they are wearing. Gen Lahd's aide, Dr (Sahir), has said there is a particularly grave shortage of medicinal supplies and baby food. He said if supplies are not brought in at once, there will be a danger of epidemics. The first International Red Cross representatives went to Jazzin yesterday.

Jazzin Outside Security Strip

TA280416 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] The Christians in Jazzin have asked for humanitarian help from Israel for the thousands of refugees who have fled into the town from the area of Sidon. Senior officers at army of southern Lebanon [ASL] headquarters told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that they hoped Israel would as early as today supply them with medicine, blankets, and baby food. According to them, international and UN relief agencies have been ignoring their pleas because they do not recognize the ASL.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that Israel has rejected the Christians' request that Jazzin should be included in the security strip. According to our correspondent, this means that Israel will not intervene in Jazzin if battles erupt over control of the town. As of yet, there have been no army movements in the direction of Jazzin.

Christian Refugees Flee to Border

TA281136 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Approximately 2,000 Christian refugees have fled the battle areas in Sidon and the Al-Kharrub region, and have reached the Christian villages near the border with Israel. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that an emergency committee has been set up in Marj 'Uyun, and that all the schools in the area have been evacuated in order to accomodate the refugees. The refugees told our correspondent that they were ordered to leave their homes within 1 hour. Afterward, the houses were set on fire, and those who did not manage to escape were murdered. Besides Shi'ites and Palestinians, Lebanese Army soldiers also broke into the houses.

IDF will Not Intervene

TA281417 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Military sources in Israel have emphasized that we will take action in southern Lebanon only if the settlements in the Galilee are endangered. The sources stressed that there are no army of southern lebanon [ASL] forces in Jazzin. According to these sources, if General Lahd thinks that Jazzin should be defended, he should be able to help the local force. Israel believes, according to the sources, that the local forces will act first and foremost to defend their interests.

UNIFIL, Amal Reach Agreements

TA290442 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] UNIFIL is prepared to impose law and order in the Tyre region once the IDF withdraws. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that UNIFIL headquarters has reached some agreements and arrangements with the Shi'ite Amal organization in southern Lebnaon. According to these agreements, Amal's authority in the

region will be guaranteed and, in exchange, the organization will prevent the infiltration of armed people into the area south of the Al-Litani River. Shi'ite forces are already deploying on the outskirts of the refugee camps in Tyre and Al-Rashidiyah, in order to prevent leaders of the terrorist organizations from sending their fighters to the camps. Our correspondent notes that the central leadership of Amal in Beirut and the Lebanese Government hold a positive view of these arrangements.

IDF Aiding Christians

TA290448 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] The IDF Aid Unit in Lebanon gave first aid treatment to the Christian refugees yesterday. The emergency committees set up by the Christians in Marj 'Uyun and Al-Qulay'ah received hundreds of blankets, mattresses, and a large supply of fruit and vegetables from the IDF.

Maj Gen Or Comments on Jazzin

TA290837 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0825 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] The commander of the Northern Command, Major General Ori Or, does not think that Jazzin will fall. In his opinion, the Christians are capable of defending themselves. Maj Gen Or said that so far the Druze are not exhibiting any hostile intent toward Jazzin. He noted that the Christians do not have a good fighting capability, and that they are simply retreating from areas which they cannot defend. Speaking with our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, Maj Gen Or said that he feels compassion for the Christians but pointed out that the IDF will not reenter Jazzin to defend them.

Syria Warned Not To Change Troop Deployment

TA290844 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 29 Apr 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Israel has warned Syria that it will not agree to any change in the deployment of its troops in Lebanon. The warning applies particularly to the possibility that the Damascus rulers might try to use Israel's withdrawal and the IDF's deployment in the security zone to step up their activities in Lebanon.

Israel's warnings — which were conveyed to Damascus through diplomatic channels — made it unambiguously clear that Israel would not tolerate any Syrian attempt to change the status quo and the tacit understanding of the last few years during which Syria and Israel have been active in Lebanon.

Nevertheless, senior security sources believe that Syria will attempt to move some of its troops and improve its positions in the eastern sector, after the IDF withdrawal from that area. It is believed that very small forces which will not pose a real threat to Israel will be moved.

In yesterday's Cabinet session, the defense minister reviewed the completion of the second phase of the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon. The Cabinet discussed this issue in its capacity as the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

Egyptian Officials Attend Embassy Reception

TA260726 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] A special representative of President Mubarak attended an Independence Day reception at the residence of Ambassador Moshe Sason in Cairo yesterday. He brought with him a letter of congratulations on the celebrations.

Egyptian Government ministers — the minister of electricity and energy and the minister of agriculture and food security — as well as heads of the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and hundreds of others also attended the reception. Our correspondent Aharon Barne'a points out that the Egyptian attendance at the Israeli celebrations in Cairo was unprecedented.

ALGERIA

Rabat Details Demonstrations in Algiers, Casbah Area

LD262326 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The inhabitants of the Casbah quarter in the Algerian capital staged a demonstration today in protest against the lack of security and shortage of water. AFP quoting eyewitnesses said that the demonstrators proceeded to the center of the city and the headquarters of the ruling party in Algeria — the only party in the country. The police used tear gas to disperse the demonstrators many of whom have been injured and others were arrested. The agency added that elements of the security forces surrounded the Casbah quarter this afternoon and began to disperse groups of people and surrounded the headquarters of the only ruling party in Algeria in order to protect it against renewed demonstrations.

Algiers District Issues Communique

LD262329 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The Coordinating Council of Algiers District this evening made public a communique reported in the national press agency APS. I shall read this to you:

Following the unfortunate collapse of an old building in the Casbah and despite all efforts made by the state to find a final solution to the case of the 900 families of the last part of the rehousing program of the inhabitants of the Casbah -- which is to be completed by the 31 July next, says the Coordinating Council of Algiers District -- incidents have occurred bringing about acts of vandalism against public and private property. These incidents, states the Coordinating Council of Algiers District, were provoked by agitators and other irresponsible persons, some of whom are not even residents of this area of the capital. The office of the Coordinating Council of Algiers District lets it be known that public order shall be preserved by all means, whatever the consequences may be. Any troublemakers or vandals, as well as any other persons implicated, will answer for their acts and will be laid open to the rigor of the law, this is what is said in this communique from the Coordinating Council of Algiers District.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Tripoli People's Congress

LD261418 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1310 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Speech by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at 24 April session of Tripoli Municipality People's Congress — recorded]

[Excerpts] Good evening. With your permission, I will stay with you for 5 minutes and then go. I wish to make several remarks pertaining to the people's congresses of the municipalities in general. They do not pertain to the Tripoli Municipality Congress only.

The Tripoli Municipality Congress is one of those congresses that have been dominated by political and revolutionary consciousness and not tribal. I am not just saying this. Your congress befits a town with such culture as Tripoli. There are no municipal congresses here with bad conditions. The congresses of Tripoli, Banghazi, Surt and (Ghdamis) are ideal. They have been governed by consciousness, a sense of responsibility, and appreciation of the future.

The whole conflict revolves around the suitable person and not around the tribe. The whole conflict and the whole clamor was about who is the most suitable person. One says this one is better while another says no, the other is better. They do not say that this one is better because he belongs to this tribe or that tribe, as has been the case in other congresses.

Other congresses such (Msitin), Kufrah, Ghiryan, Al-Bayda', Al-'Aziziyah, Darnah, (Tubzin), Al-Fatih, Al-Khums, Yifrim, Tarhunah, Al-Shati have all be discredited. The selection operation in 13 of the provinces has been discredited because it conflicted with actual direct democracy. Reelection will definitely take place in these congresses. The Secretariat of the General People's Congress views this matter seriously. This is evident from our following it up.

What is being objected to is not that in the [words indistinct]. Suppose prior to the convocation of the congresses, the people held consultations at [words indistinct] under the trees and in cemeteries; there is nothing wrong with that. I wish ideas would mature prior to the convocation of the congresses in mini-meetings and groups. This is not what we are objecting to. No! Go ahead and meet as you like prior to the meetings of the people's congresses. Discuss and put forward your views so that ideas may develop prior to the meeting of the congresses, be they basic or municipal congresses. The objection is that at Al-Marabiyah, about which they are talking, matters were allocated on tribal bases: This tribe was given agriculture and that tribe was given so and so.

What was said to have taken place at Al-Marabiyah about which you are talking, was for the discussion of the agenda and exchanging views about this one and that one and what solution we should adopt and what question we should raise on the agenda of the basic popular congresses on the level of the Jamahiriyah. All this is reasonable. We have no objection. But there was an agreement at Al-Marabiyah to divide posts. What is intended by this? When you say that housing affairs would be entrusted to one from your tribe while health affairs would be entrusted to one from my tribe, what do you mean by this? Does that mean that the one entrusted with health affairs would provide medical treatment to his tribe and that whoever is entrusted with housing would provide houses to his tribe? Well, then we who belong to the other tribes which have nobody from them entrusted with housing and health, who will provide us with treatment and give us houses? The one entrusted with health affairs is responsible for all of us and the one entrusted with housing is responsible for all of us. What do you mean by this division of tasks in this manner?

This is a cheap idea. He who puts forward such an idea cannot be mature. If you are still being dominated by those of the defunct regime and the wisemen and village chiefs and advisers and tribal chiefs, then we must be in need of another revolution to crush this class. We can instigate the revolutionary force once more and indeed, by God, we can even instigate the Armed Forces to crush all the vestiges of the defunct regime against whom revolution was staged and continues. [Chants]

If the old and the advisers give lessons and advice and offer their experience to the new growing generations, telling them to choose whoever will be good to you and will refrain from fanaticism and tribalism, then we say that we support such talk and it is what is required from the people who lived under the defunct regime or who lived even under the Turkish regime. These people have their experience and we respect them. We respect their old age. They served governments and they say: By God, we have tried governments, favoritism, and nepotism but none of them was of benefit to our country. Now comes the regime under which the country serves itself and rules itself and realizes equality. If they say this, by God, we can have no objection to what they say. Indeed, we encourage them to do so and we respect them when they offer advice about their experiences in the defunct times.

But, probably, they say now: Listen, they will slaughter you if you get elected to the people's committee. By God, such people deserve to be slaughtered. If we see anyone of the class I have spoken about trying to influence the masses and trying to divide tasks within the people's committees among the tribes, by God, we truly will massacre him.

Such a person is obstructive. He is against the people's authority. If we wanted to have such people dominating us, we would not have staged a revolution. If we will allow tribes to dominate Libya, then we should have left the tribes that were doing so in the past. We staged our revolution to erase such differences, and to establish equality. Well, what happens to the person who does not belong to any tribe? If we had one well qualified, and had the best qualifications, at Al-Walid for example, but he has no tribe, shall we disregard his qualifications and all the money we spent teaching him, and disregard him just because he does not belong to any tribe? Such a thing has been abolished. It is not only against the revolution but also against the people's authority. That this tribe should take the housing affairs, and that tribe should be entrusted with I do not know what and control the municipality people's committee — these things are not acceptable. [Chants]

Generally speaking, the interactions that took place in the congresses are not unhealthy signs. We must pass through such stages. There is some anarchy. The congresses turn into something like classrooms with students dominated by a lack of sense of responsibility sometimes. But this is just a stage which will pass. There is demagogy. I consider this as something essential and something we have to go through. But after some years, things will definitely improve as we get command of the people's authority. In the future, such a congress should meet in peace and anyone who wants to talk will have to do so while sitting. Do you think that if you stand up, your words will be stronger than they would be if you were sitting? Not at all. You can say the strongest words while sitting.

Khomeyni takes the gravest decisions while sitting and not [words indistinct]. There is no need for you to speak which standing. Besides, the sight of you would be unacceptable to observers and those who attend respectable conferences. To leave seats, to create chaos, to [words indistinct].

We have 150 members in every committee. They come from 150 basic people's congresses in the Tripoli Municipality. Why have these 150 basic people's congresses selected these nominees? Have they squabbled over them and defined qualifications that should be met? All these conditions are done at the bases and not here in the people's committees. Whether the selection of this one was false or not, was present in the region or was not — all these matters have been settled and done with by the basic popular conferences. Had a nominee been unqualified, they would not have selected him [words indistinct].

When the basic people's conference nominates a person to membership of this or that committee, some in the people's congresses ask what his qualifications are. He has already undergone discussion of his qualifications and suitability. Discussion of these qualifications should not be done here. The selection and nomination has been already done by the basic popular conferences.

There are before you vocational committees. Choose a secretary for every committee. This is your task. But as to the qualifications, they do not come under your jurisdiction. They belong to the basic people's conferences.

Then we come to the point of attending revolutionary meetings. I am a member of the revolutionary committee. Who says that members of the people's committees must also be members of the revolutionary committees? Who has laid down this principle? On the contrary, I did not permit the members of the revolutionary committees to join the people's committees except on rare occasions. If one joins, well and good. But if he does not join, his task is to instigate the people's conferences even against the people's committees. On the contrary, the revolutionary committee's task is to instigate the conferences so that they may dominate the committees and thus ensure that these committees would implement the resolutions of the conferences without any nepotism, without any favoritism, without laxity, without negligence, and without disregard on the part of the people's committees in implementing the resolutions of the people's conferences. The revolutionary committees are the watchful eyes which alert the conferences to any favoritism, nepotism or anything that takes place by any committee. They monitor and secure evidence. They instigate the conferences against the committees.

Who told you that members of the revolutionary committees must be members of the people's committees? The fact of the matter is just the opposite. You have wasted such a long time squabbling over this point: This one is present and that one is not, and the one who is not present cannot be chosen as secretary of the committee. It is not necessary for the members of the people's committees to be members of the revolutionary committees. Indeed, this is not necessary. The people are free to select whoever they want: If he happens to be a member of a revolutionary committee, well and good. But membership of the revolutionary committees is not a condition.

You have stated that the congresses have decided that the one to be selected should be a member of the people's committee and should be committed to the principles of the revolution in words and deeds, and such expressions that we have been accustomed to. This does not mean that he should be a member of the revolutionary committee. Not all Jews belong to the Zionist movement. But the Zionist movement is the one [words indistinct] the Jews throughout the world who number 24 millions and [words indistinct]. They are the people who [words indistinct] 24 million Jews and [words indistinct] in the Middle East, the Arab countries by occupying them and establishing a Zionist empire at the expense of the Arab nation.

Likewise, not all the Libyan people or all the world's people must be members of the Revolutionary Committees Movement. The fact that not all Jews are members of the Zionist movement does not mean that they are against Zionism. On the contrary, all Jews hold the Zionist movement sacred as being their political movement. Not all Palestinians are members of the PLO but all of them support this organization and carry out its will and they go as far as dying if it tells them to, although some of those who do so are not members. Not all Libyans are members of the revolutionary committees. But this does not mean that they are against the revolution. The revolution is not the authority by virtue of which you function.

Not everyone has the ability to become a member of a revolutionary committee. The one who is not a member of a revolutionary committee cannot be considered non-revolutionary. Not at all. He could be a revolutionary but does not possess the ability to instigate or to constantly be present at the committee's center or to perform revolutionary tasks. Sometimes such a person might not be able even to contribute to revolutionary deliberations which members of the revolutionary committees should undertake.

Members of the revolutionary committees are the advocates — indeed, the prophets of the revolution. They are the ones versed in it. Not all people are versed in it. But people believe in the religion advocated by one prophet and not in the religions brought by all prophets. They follow the creed of one imam but not all people must be imams, so that they may belong that creed.

The fact that you are not a member does not mean that you are against this religion or that creed. Not at all. The religion or the creed can be expressed by one person. I mean from the point of view of jurisdiction and leadership and instigation. Likewise, members of the revolutionary committees are an expression for us all. If we are unable to express things, they can do so for us; if we are unable to instigate they can instigate on our behalf.

But this does not mean that he who is not a member of the revolutionary committees is opposed to the revolution and does not belong to the revolution. No, that is not true. Members of the revolutionary committees are those people who volunteered and were able to perform the tasks, the revolutionary tasks, in a constant manner. There are some members of revolutionary committees who registered their names, but who could not present themselves to perform the revolutionary missions and thus they are in the same position as those who are not members of the revolutionary committees. I mean that attendance, taking initiatives and instigating are things which not all of us can undertake. But this does not mean that we who are unable to perform these things are no longer revolutionaries [words indistinct]. [Chants]

The next point covers the question of qualifications. This is a new term in the Jamahiriyah lexicon. Rejection of candidates does not take place at this congress of yours. It should take place at the basic popular conferences only. Suppose we are members of the basic popular conference of Al-Sahah al-Khadra' in Tripoli, for example. We have met to select members of our people's committee. There is nobody in front of us. So we bring and create some. One of them comes and raises his hand seeking permission to speak. We tell him: Please do. He says: I wish to nominate such and such a person for education affairs, and his qualifications are so and so. If you approve of him, well and good. Another might come and say: I wish to nominate such and such a person for health affairs, because he is excellent and so on so forth, and all of you know him and if you do not, here are his qualifications. If you approve of him, then we select him.

Thus nominations are done by the people's committees at the basic popular conferences and not at the municipality congresses. The municipality congresses have lists. Such lists must be distributed to you all explaining qualifications, age and so on, and all you need to know about each person. They also appear on the notice boards or are read to you. You say one of those 150 members on the health committee should become the secretary of this committee. Well, then you must review his qualifications, agree on one of them. There is no need for someone to come and ask permission to speak and (?discredit) someone as secretary. Whence did he get his information? Where did the information written here originate from? Such a matter could lead to some investigation: It is written that his qualifications are so and so and then false information is provided. This could lead to trying those who raise false information.

[Words indistinct] misleading the masses. Why? perhaps we (?acted) in good faith [words indistinct] good people, but the way is not at all democratic [words indistinct]. This, at the basic people's conferences [words indistinct]. Anyone can raise his hand and say(?now we present) so and so, (?as you like). But at the municipality you cannot say I present this person [words indistinct] the conferences brought them to us, the basic conferences put them in front of us. Good, here are (?150). Choose one of them [words indistinct] this is the best one. Do you agree on him? We agree on him. There remains a need for give and take in this matter, not important [words indistinct] but in the end the person could be a compromise, a denominator for the whole committee. You will say in the end: Indeed, there is no one better than him. And the name is not cecessary: It is possible to [word indistinct] he can only have a number. If there is tribalism [words indistinct].

In the coming session of the basic people's conference we must present a draft resolution on the establishment of the people's court. This court will specialize in these cases, the election, contesting of selection [words indistinct] conferences, cases which concern the interactions of the masses, which concern people's conference and the people's committee. A court should be a people's court. Anyone can appear before this court, that is it.

The court will see and will judge. The people, the court, and the judges are neutral, popular, and can be changed in a regular manner or [words indistinct]. When one presents it with a contest, the court, not the Secretariat of the General People's Congress, is the one to inform the General People's Congress, to tell it that it is [words indistinct]. Until the formation of this court in the coming session of the basic people's conferences, God willing, contestation will be in this way. One can contest before the Secretariat of the General People's Congress; one can contest directly on radio, another [words indistinct], etc.

Those who leave the popular committees are replaced. Are they subject to law of [words indistinct]. When a person is a member of a popular committee or a secretary of a people's committee and he was not selected by the people's conference, then he is subject to the law of [words indistinct] which is, when you enter the committee or the position you record all your property. When you leave the committee or the position [words indistinct] the Supreme Court and the office of audit writes a declaration of property. Even the people [words indistinct] all write a declaration of property — what he has, his salary, etc. And when he leaves the committee, even if after only 5 months, he makes another declaration of what more property he has made [words indistinct] and his property.

This means that the law is fixed. Everyone knows that he cannot enter [words indistinct] these financial matters. The judge will ask: Where did you get this? In the beginning you had so and so and after the position you had so and so. Your income is so and so, where did you get this increase? He will be brought before a court. Some members of the revolutionary committees [words indistinct] correct or not correct way. This is incorrect. Members of the revolutionary committee are not trustees over the municipalities' people's conferences or other in order to contact by telephone from the [words indistinct] and say this is incorrect or correct. They are members of the basic people's conferences, like other people. If they are aware and if they have strong ambition, they can do this inside the people's conference while exercising the right of membership of the basic people's conference [words indistinct] municipality. It is possible that you could have a number of members in revolutionary committees who are pursuing the policy of inciting [words indistinct]. There is no one to tell the Libyan people this is wrong or not wrong. Even members of the revolutionary committees are members of the Basic People's Conference and exercise their role because they are members and revolutionaries at the same time. Through their membership they exercise the revolutionary role.

If there is anything wrong or not, this is something they must say during the meetings of their conferences: This is right and this is wrong, and I am raising this by virtue of my being a member of the conference, and so on. I do not need to lose my revolutionary membership [words indistinct].

After the law has been issued this is what the people's conferences have decided, and it becomes law. The traditional police as such disappears and becomes replaced by the people's security, local and popular security whose members wear civilian attire and carry insignia indicating that he is a member of the local popular security in every lane, street, and quarter.

Members of the local popular security force are always present at all meetings. Sometimes they even squabble [words indistinct]. They might quarrel. But such a quarrel is an offence punishable by certain articles of the penal code. Legal proceedings will be initiated against them.

Suppose certain people disrupted the meetings by flexing their muscles. [Words indistinct] the conferences to assign groups for discipline and to force anyone who gets up from his seat to sit down and if he does not heed, to be taken out. [Passage indistinct] Such matters should be handled by groups entrusted with such tasks by the basic popular conferences and [words indistinct].

In the future, people might be more pleasant. One could raise his hand and ask permission to leave a meeting. But usually, in large-scale meetings, matters are carried out differently from classrooms containing 10 students. One can leave and re-enter freely. At international or regional conferences, no one asks permission from the chairman. They come and go as they please. People understand that he who leaves has a valid reason to leave, except, of course, in the case of one who wants to walk out of the conference in protest because he does not approve of what is happening.

Is there something else I have forgotten to talk about? [Unintelligible voices in background] No, no, I do not accept this way. Only one of you should speak and cover all the points you are raising. Let the one nearest me speak. [Faint noise in the background as though someone is asking a question]

This is an extremely vital and difficult matter. It is part of the system. But henceforth, it will no longer exist. This is because as of now, every basic people's conference will nominate a member of every sector. So it can bring him to account and can drop him. Thus, if the conference to which he belongs drops him, then there will be no other place for him and he cannot be nominated at another place.

Hitherto, responsibility was joint: There are basic popular conferences which are jointly participating in one people's committee. Some of the conferences have ended this practice while others have not done so yet.

In fact, there are objections to this. The members of this joint committee should not be chosen until the points raised against it by other conferences are dealt with, or rather the charges leveled by some of the basic popular conferences against it. What I am saying is that there is now a vocational joint committee in which all the basic popular conferences in Tripoli are members.

In the future, no such thing will be acceptable. In the future, every conference will have its own member. This will be the case from now on. In the past, all the conferences had one joint popular vocational committee. Some of them were happy with it while others were not. However, this joint committee has met with objections. Since there was such an objection, it should be brought to account so that the charges leveled against it can be verified — charges leveled by some basic popular conferences against this committee, or its secretary, or some of its members. It is no longer possible for the person that was dropped to be selected by another conference, until he is verified as innocent.

If he is convicted, then no other conference can select him. [Words indistinct; faint voice in background apparently asking a question]

We have already dealt with this matter. We have said that discrediting by a conference against this secretary must be investigated to find out whether he was guilty or innocent. [Background voice indistinct]

At present we do not care about the type of the charge. We do not care what he has done. We are talking about principles. If you have evidence and proof and facts against him, well then, a people's court could be formed at the conference. If the subject matter concerns a criminal case, then you must refer it to the public prosecutor. The discredited person cannot be selected by anyone until the charges leveled against him are verified. This is clear. [Background voice indistinct] [Words indistinct] until doomsday. God will judge him, not we. [Applause] You there, speak! Use a microphone so that we can hear you.

[Unidentified questioner] Brother commander. With regard to brokers, we fear no one. But brokers [words indistinct].

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [Passage indistinct] The basic popular conferences consist of men and women, if such an expression is acceptable, males and females. The women need not attend a meeting with the men. Any woman who can attend, may do so. But the other women, those who do not mix with men and who cannot attend with women, facilities must be provided for them in another hall in which they can meet.

The hall in which men and women meet and the other hall in which only women are present, together constitute one basic popular conference, with one secretariat and one agenda. Any resolutions adopted in the hall of the women would be added to those adopted in the hall of the men. They would be compiled and one decision would be issued. It cannot be said that the women have decided this and the men have decided that. For then we would have two conferences and then we would have two Jamahiriyahs.

[Words indistinct] the parties and partisans, national and progressive parties — we appreciate them because at one time there were no popular conferences or revolutionary committees. Yet they used to seek deliverance. After the revolution, they joined its ranks saying that this is the aspiration for the sake of which we formed parties and worked secretly and went to prison, and this revolution has realized our aspirations. We have nothing against them at all. But those who continued and plotted after the revolution, must be crushed. Anyone who forms a party after the revolution must be crushed too, [words indistinct] party, the party which [words indistinct].

The last point I have to deal with concerns people who have not been reselected. There are two reasons for not selecting people: first, if the person is incapable. He could be a revolutionary who is good and behaves well. But, by God, if this is all he can do he cannot take part in work, for he has other preoccupations [Words indistinct].

Let me give you an example: Suppose a university professor is selected but he is busy. He cannot attend meetings. He is an academic, that is, it is not his field to deal with committees and the management of staff. So he has failed in his mission. So here is a capable person with special importance in another field. He tells you he is not one for people's committee or popular authority.

This professor should not be selected or chosen another time. It does not mean that he has lost favor. Not at all. He can be utilized in another field. In this case, nonselection is a positive action.

But to drop a man proven to have been intentionally negligent, who flouts popular conferences, who accepts bribes, who practices favoritism and nepotism, who is a traitor, who intentionally obstructs the development of the people's authority, this man must be dropped and must be referred to the public prosecutor's office and to the courts because if he has committed a crime, his crime is bound to be governed by one of the laws promulgated by the people's conferences, such as economic crimes and the penal code. Or he could be referred to a people's court to be formed by the Basic Popular Conference. He would be brought to account for crimes that are not governed by the penal code.

Other matters fall under popular bringing to task — people's courts. As a result of popular trial, crimes might be uncovered that would lead to referring the person to the public prosecutor's office.

Thus, there are two cases in which a member of a popular committee cannot be selected as secretary for a full popular committee or even a partial popular committee; In the case of inability — and in this case there can be no blame to the one not selected — and in the case of committing certain acts. These acts can be divided into types: criminal acts, in which case the matter would be referred to courts and the public prosecutor; or non-criminal, that is, popular violation — I mean, not a crime or an offence. In this case, the people's conference would form a committee or a court to bring him to account for these violations. Bringing to account might lead to the discovery of a criminal act, in which case he would be referred to courts. I believe this is clear, very clear.

[Unidentified questioner] [Words indistinct] and there are people who are technicians: There is one who has a laboratory or a factory which he supervises. There is one who is an anesthetist. Every day he carries out so many anesthesias [words indistinct]. Do not forget the nature of every person's work [words indistinct]. Are we obliged to implement these instructions which come to us constantly From the secretariat of the General People's Congress or not? Thank you.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] From the Secretariat of the General People's Congress.

[Unidentified questioner] The Secretariat of the General People' Congress [words indistinct] among these instructions now they say to you in view of the courtesy by some conferences some of the brothers were [words indistinct] whose failure was proved popularly [words indistinct].

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Correct, because the General People's Congress has the right [words indistinct].

[Unidentified questioner] [Words indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] After the accountability, we do not say [words indistinct] perhaps the talk comes out [words indistinct].

[Unidentified questioner] [Words indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [Words indistinct] and you, your conflict is not on a tribal basis [words indistinct]. The Tripoli conference should be on a political, revolutionary basis, that is, dominated by a political and revolutionary spirit, not tribal. I think you have made a significant (?stride). [Applause]

[Unidentified questioner] [Words indistinct].

[Al-Qadhdhafi] We must draw your attention to one thing, a basis of the masses was made in their struggle for authority and the escalation, etc. This happened at the people's conference of the municipality of [name indistinct] in past years [words indistinct]. Two persons: one has the majority, one the minority. The majority said this one should be the secretary of the committee and the minority said the other should be the secretary of the committee. In this situation, a rule was created which imposed itself on us: He who has the majority becomes the secretary and he who has the minority becomes assistant to him. When the secretary is absent the assistant replaces him. He created this position and this office [words indistinct] his right is not lost. No one comes out deceived in the [words indistinct] in the direct people's authority. The decisions of all the people are implemented, even those of the minority. Subordination of the minority to the majority does not exist in the people's authority. If you quarrel about a person, the one who enjoys the majority becomes secretary, the one who enjoys the minority becomes his assistant. One day when the secretary is absent [words indistinct] he replaces him.

[Unidentified questioner] [Words indistinct] you find one who is a doctor, and he has little experience; to us the most important thing is experience. What is the view of the brother leader [words indistinct] concerning experience in particular?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [Words indistinct] you drew up the standards, you see, you know who is suitable among you. Experience and qualification, nothing of the sort. [Applause and chants]

SUDAN

Communique No 12 on General Amnesty, Cease-Fire

JN261804 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1728 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Apr (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC and commander in chief of the Peoples Armed Forces issued a communique granting general amnesty for all those accused of previous political actions and for all those [words indistinct] against the previous state of affairs. He also decided to implement a unilateral cease-fire by the People's Armed Forces in the south of the homeland, except in cases of self-defense. In a communique today, his excellency explained that the general amnesty includes all people living inside or outside the homeland. He affirmed that all those who lay down their arms will be treated as if they have never commited any crime. The amnesty also covers those who brandished arms or those who are still brandishing arms against the authority for political reasons.

In Communique No 12 which was issued by the TMC today, Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab added that the two decisions issued today reflect the seriousness and sincerity of the 6 April revolution toward the problem of the South, which has kept the homeland sleepless for many years, and are a sincere national invitation to build the homeland through soldiarity and with the participation of all its sons in the process of construction.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab added that it is only natural, logical, and necessary for the revolution to devote its attention to this wound in the body of the Sudanese nation, which is represented by the problem of the south.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab explained that from the very first moment, the revolution's priority has been to tackle the cause of the southern homeland with national sincerity, the daring of the revolution, and the objectivity of the wise to stop the bloodshed, close ranks, and work to instill a spirit of amity and brotherhood among the sons of the one homeland, and to call for a dialogue to attain the homeland's aspired objectives under the canopy of amity and harmony. He said that the decision was inspired by the spirit of the people's upheaval and in appreciation for the great role that has been performed by all those who have resisted the methods of the dictatorial regime.

General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC, asserted that the decision is an assertion of the national charter signed by all the national forces, including the People's Armed Forces, in order to stop the bloodshed of all Sudan's sons in the southern homeland.

Prime Minister on Foreign, Domestic Issues

NC282118 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Apr (MENA) — Sudanese Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah stated that relations between Egypt and Sudan are dictated by geographical and historical considerations and mutual interests and that no other relations include these factors, hence, special relations exist between them.

He added that these relations are everlasting and must be promoted in the interest of the Egyptian and Sudanese people. He said that the new transitional cabinet has not yet considered the framework of relations with Egypt adopted by the previous regime and has yet to decide what action to take. He said: We would like relations with Egypt to develop in the interest of the two people and the two countries.

The Sudanese prime minister was speaking at a news conference held at the Information Ministry.

Answering a question on whether the new transitional cabinet has asked that the former Sudanese president be handed over, he said: We have not yet discussed this subject. He said the transitional government seeks to rectify the effects of the former regime. I do not believe that this can be done in a day. We took the oath Thursday, today is Sunday. There will be no bargaining over this issue; everything will come in time.

Answering another question about the attitude of John Garang, leader of the Sudanese Popular Liberation Movement, he said: I stated previously that Garang's radio statements have become lenient. He used to say that he would not negotiate with a government of generals and that he would continue the war. However, he changed his attitude a little recently. Maybe this stems from his understanding of certain conditions in Sudan.

Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah said that the transitional government will not send an official delegation to Brother John Garang until we have found a way to open a channel of dialogue with him. He added that the trade unionist grouping has decided to send representatives to meet with Garang. Since the trade unionist grouping represents one of the alliance forces, maybe this popular action will be a positive step that promotes opening channels of dialogue with Brother John Garang. He praised John Garang's national stance, saying that Garang opposed the former regime, that he is a struggling Sudanese citzen, and that he will meet with us and assume his place in this decisive period of Sudan's history.

Replying to a question on criticism from the national grouping about the choice of some ministers, particularly those from the south, Dr Al-Jazuli said: The Cabinet was chosen in consultation with the three parties — the trade unionist grouping, the parties, and the Armed Forces. Some ministries were designated for certain parties to fill. The appointment of southern ministers was left to the political forces in the south. The defense minister was chosen by the Armed Forces, and the interior minister was chosen by the police force. The remaining ministers were approved by the trade unionist grouping, the parties, and the Armed Forces. It is natural in a democratic system to have differing opinions. In general, we adhered to the accepted rules in forming the Cabinet. Dr Al-Jazuli added: There is no inclination toward extending the transitionary period. Authority will be transferred to the people at its conclusion. It is natural that not all problems will be solved in a year. We must lay the foundation for a sound democratic life. He said that 15 is the number of ministers set by the 1956 Constitution, amended in 1964.

Replying to a question on repealing the Islamic Shari'a laws applied in 1983, Dr Al-Jazuli said: The government has not yet discussed this issue. I do not want to voice my own opinion because it is a sensitive issue. All its dimensions should be considered and the people must participate.

Answering another question on whether relations with Ethiopia have been improved at the expense of the Eritrean problem, he said: We first work for the Sudanese people, and then comes our commitments to others. When our relations with Ethiopia are stronger we can play a strong mediating role to solve the problem.

Responding to a question about Sudan's economic crisis, Dr Daf'allah said: We must first depend on ourselves. We must increase production, utilize available resources, and stop spending on luxuries. During this democratic era there will be no expenditure on repressive services or the socialist union. We must also stop corruption and the embezzlement of public funds.

He said that Sudanese expatriates have participated in the revolution with their money, and that brothers and friends will extend aid to Sudan. They are confident that Sudan will spend this aid on essential needs. Solving the economic problem is the solution in the south.

Regarding Sudan's position on the Palestinian issue, he said: We must not forget that Khartoum is where the three "no's" were issued.We support the Palestinian issue and the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people. We call on the Arabs to support this issue and unite for its sake. In the absence of a united Arab stand, proposed solutions remain only words.

Answering another question, Dr Daf'allah said: Sudan is a free and independent state. There are no restrictions on establishing friendly relations with fraternal Arab states in order to serve the Sudanese people's interest. He said: I see no contradiction in having close relations with Libya and in maintaining, at the same time, cordial relations with Egypt.

Concerning the trial of former regime leaders, he said: A list of those detained will be submitted to the public prosecutor in order to arrange for the necessary court chambers. The trials will be fair. Dr Al-Jazuli denied knowledge of a report that Libya offered $3 billion if Sudan would break off relations with the United States.

MENA: 'Republican Brotherhood' Resumes Activity

NC281649 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1620 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Apr (MENA) — The Republican Brotherhood Movement has resumed its activities in Sudan after suspending these activities 2 months ago when their leader, Muhammad Mahmud Taha, was executed.

'Isam 'Abd al-Rahman, a member of the Republican Brotherhood, declared in a statement published in the movement's trade union publication that today the Republican Brotherhood movement is continuing its permanent effort to create an ideological and cultural revolution to confront contemporary challenges.

He said that the Republican Brotherhood movement is conducting prayers and organizing activities, adding that Brother Sa'id al-Tayyib Sha'ib is now the movement's leader, succeeding Muhammad Mahmud Taha. He outlined his view on solving the southern problem through the establishment of a federal government.

He demanded the abolition of Islamic laws in order to eliminate the dangers resulting from them and to safeguard Islam. He attacked the Muslim Brotherhood, alleging that they had played a part in Muhammad Mahmud Taha's execution.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Meets Sudanese Government Delegation

EA261757 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Workers' Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, today received a message from General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council of the new Sudanese Government.

At a ceremony held at the special COPWE Central Committee special office of the comrade secretary general this afternoon. Brigadier General Fadlallah Burma Nasir, member of the Transitional Military Council of the new Sudanese Government, presented the message to our comrade revolutionary leader. After Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam received the message, they exchanged views on relations between the peoples of revolutionary Ethiopia and Sudan.

Present during the occasion were: Comrade Goshu Wolde, WPE Central Committee member and foreign minister, Comrade ambassador Yilma Tadese, head of the African and Middle East Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brig Faris Abdullah Husni, member of the Transitional Council of the new Sudanese Government, Ambassador 'Abd al-Majid (?al-Mahdi), and Mr Hajj al-Fatih Hashim, Sudanese charge d'affaires in revolutionary Ethiopia.

The four member delegation headed by Brig Fadlallah Burma Nasir, member of the Transitional Council in the new Sudanese Government, arrived in Addis Ababa this morning. On arrival in Addis Ababa, the delegation was met at Bole International Airport by Comrade Endale Tesema, WPE Central Committee member and minister of interior, Comrade Goshu Wolde, WPE Central Committee member and foreign minister, and Ambassador Yilma Tadese, head of the African and Middle East Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mengistu Sends Greetings to Afghanistan's Karmal

EA261858 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam has expressed admiration for the resolute and heroic struggle of the Afghan people against imperialism and reaction and their continuing successes in defending the gains of the revolution. In a congratulatory message to Comrade Babrak Karmal, leader of Afghanistan, on the occasion of tomorrow's sixth anniversary of the People's Revolution Day, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam said that it is his profound desire that the militant solidarity and fraternal relationship which exist between the two countries will be further strengthened in the interests of the two revolutionary peoples. On behalf of the WPE, [Workers Party of Ethiopia] the government and people of Ethiopia, and on his own behalf, Comrade Mengistu extended to Comrade Karmal and through him to the government and people of Afghanistan warmest congratulations on the occasion of their national day.

SOMALIA

Spokesman Denies 'Secret Agreement' With RSA

EA291204 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] A spokesman of the Somali Ministry for Information and National Guidance today denied a report carried by the *OBSERVER* newspaper published in London and which was spread by AFP alleging that the Somali Democratic Republic made a secret agreement with South Africa under which it received arms from that country. The spokesman declared that the report was totally false. The spokesman added that the enemy of the Somali nation has made it a habit to spread this type of propaganda against Somalia in an attempt to create confusion concerning the clear policy of the Somali Democratic Republic which is continuously opposed to the apartheid policy as well as to those who advocate the practice of such a policy.

PRC To Grant Additional Aid of Vaccines, Grain

EA261056 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] China will grant an additional 3,000 tons of grain and 4,000 units of anticholera vaccine to Somalia to feed the refugees and relieve the country from a cholera epidemic. China will provide Somalia with 8,000 tons of grain relief this year. The presented vaccines will protect 40,000 people from the widespread cholera in northern Somalia especially around Hargeisa, the largest city in the north. Presently, about 1,000 people, mainly Ethiopian refugees, have died of the disease since its outbreak last month. The Somali Government is making appeals to the international community to provide emergency aid to the disease stricken areas.

CHAD

Habre, UN Official Discuss Drought Situation

AB280752 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Excerpts] This morning, El Hadj Hissein Habre granted audience to Mohamed Issafou, UN assistant secretary general and coordinator of the Office of the UN Disaster Relief, UNDRO. During the 40-minute audience, the head of state and Mr Issafou reviewed the drought situation Chad has been going through for several years. Mr Issafou informed President Habre that UNDRO wants to help Chad resolve the problems caused by the natural calamity.

The head of state said: the Chadian Government wishes to maintain broader and more positive cooperation with the United Nations in order to help our country overcome the aftermath of the drought affecting it. Another distinguished visitor is expected in Ndjamena this afternoon. Mr Alexandre Nunes Correia, Guinea-Bissau's minister of health, is bringing a message from President Joao Bernardo Pereira, secretary general of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde [PAIGC] and head of state of Guinea-Bissau. Mr Correia, who is also member of the PAIGC Central Committee, flies in from Bangui, CAR. He will be received this afternoon by President Hissein Habre.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Commerce Minister Receives Chinese Envoy

AB261740 Malabo Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Fortunato Nzambi Machinde, minister of industry, commerce and entreprenurial promotion, today in his office received in audience Liu Jiantang, the economic counselor of the PRC Embassy in Malabo. During the audience, the minister and the diplomat discussed issues relating to a (?development project in Bata). [passage indistinct]

ZAIRE

Training of Chadian Commandos Resumed

AB260755 Paris AFP in French 0727 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 26 Apr (AFP) — According to African diplomatic sources, Zaire has resumed the training of Chadian commandos. A third contingent of about 500 Chadian soldiers arrived at Kota-Koli camp (northern Zaire) several weeks ago for training, the sources indicate. According to the reliable sources, Zaire was hesitant to continue the training particularly because of financial difficulties.

BENIN

Kerekou Comments on Quadripartite Summit

AB290942 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Excerpts] President Mathieu Kerekou, our great comrade in arms, yesterday took part in a quadripartite summit in Ouagadougou with his counterparts from Burkina Faso, Ghana, and the representative of the Libyan revolution.

The delegation of our party and state, led by President Kerekou who took a very active part in the deliberations of the Ouagadougou summit, returned late last night. Assessing the deliberations of the summit upon his return to Cotonou, President Kerekou stated that participating countries raised issues connected with the economic crisis which is hitting African countries and decided to consult one another in order to establish the basis of a comprehensive cooperation to strengthen understanding between their peoples who, in fact, first of all, should rely on their own strength:

[Begin recording] Our revolutionary party and state delegation is back from Burkina Faso, fully satisfied with the outcome of the talks it had with the other delegations from brotherly and friendly countries from Ghana, Faso, and the personal representative of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud.

In fact, our talks were not only useful and fruitful, but also very rich in lessons because it touched on all issues of current international and African interest. As revolutionary and responsible partners, we had an objective exchange of views on the difficult economic situation each of our states is going through. As you know, the adverse effects of the world economic crisis are severely felt more in the developing countries, and particularly countries of the African Continent which, moreover, are enduring the effects of drought, desert encroachment, and natural calamities.

We courageously and frankly assessed our relations of cooperation and together sought ways and means of further strengthening these relations each day. Thus, we found it necessary and even imperative to pool our efforts and consult all African countries that love peace and justice in order to consolidate and harmoniously develop the spirit of solidarity and cooperation within our continental organization — the OAU — thus contributing to the economic development of each of our states.

From our Ouagadougou encounter, it became clear, more than ever before, that each of our countries should first of all rely on its own strength and resources to accomplish the gigantic task of production and national reconstruction, despite the difficult economic atmosphere. That is why at the beginning of this agricultural production season, we call on our working masses for more hard work, and on our cadres for more determination in increased production in goods and services.

To conclude, we want to renew our warm and sincere gratitude to the valiant and revolutionary people of Burkina Faso, to their militants of the democratic and popular revolution and to our dear brother and friend, Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, who was able to take the necessary measures to ensure that our stay in Burkina was in the best of conditions. We also thank him for the warm and militant welcome given to the delegation of our revolutionary party and state. [end recording]

BURKINA FASO

Ghana, Benin, Libya Attend Quadripartite Meeting

NC271336 Paris AFP in English 1310 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Ouagadougou, April 27 (AFP) — A two-day meeting between the heads of state of Ghana, Benin, and Burkina Faso and Libya's deputy leader began here today for talks expected to focus on complaints about the nature of Libyan aid to the other three states.

The meeting, described as an "informal gathering" and kept secret until last night, was prepared by foreign ministers of the four countries meeting here since yesterday.

It was being attended by Presidents Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso, Jerry Rawlings of Ghana, and Mathieu Kerekou of Benin. Tripoli was represented by the number-two man in the Libyan hierarchy, Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, who arrived here early today.

According to the original announcement of the meeting, Libyan head of state Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was himself to have attended the talks. There was no immediate explanation for the change. Sources close to the ministerial meeting said the representatives of Ghana, Benin, and Burkina Faso had sharply criticised Libya for the way it provided aid to their governments.

The foreign ministers also discussed political and economic problems in what the sources described as a tense meeting. They said some participants walked out of the meeting, preventing a closing session from being held or a final statement being published, the sources said.

Meeting Opens

AB271325 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] The quadripartite ministerial meeting of Benin, Ghana, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and Burkina Faso officially opened at the conference hall of the National Corporation for the Exploitation of Animal Resources yesterday evening. The Beninese delegation was led by Commerce Minister Soule Dankoro while the Ghanaian delegation was led by Comrade Obed Asamoah, secretary for foreign affairs. As for the Libyan and the Burkinabe delegations, they were led respectively by Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Turayki, and Major Jean-Baptiste Boukary Lingani, minister of national defense and veterans affairs.

In his opening address, Minister Lingani welcomed our guests and said that the present meeting was the expression of the common desire of our respective heads of state to strengthen the

cooperation that already exists among our four countries. He then spoke of this cooperation and what is expected of the meeting:

[Begin recording] On 7 and 8 January, we met here in Ouagadougou to define the basis and the sectors of this exemplary cooperation we want to establish between us. The current meeting, like the first, is therefore another step toward affirming a real and revolutionary solidarity between our four countries. At the bilateral level, our four countries have excellent relations in all fields. I am therefore sure that at the end of our deliberations we will succeed in expressing in concrete terms our obvious aspiration to define unanimously the legal framework necessary for the expression of our determination to have concrete and efficient discussions. We therefore have the mission to do everything possible to present to our heads of state, who are to meet tomorrow, the results of our deliberations, which must meet their legitimate expectations.

Comrade ministers, comrades, there is nothing more exciting than to strive to bring peoples together and to strengthen peace in the world and particularly on our continent, the development of which is hampered by imperialism and the enemies of our peoples. Furthermore, at a time when we are continuously beset by a series of economic problems that are difficult to solve, in the face of the persistent drought and the famine it has engendered, and in the face of the rich countries' selfishness, we have to show that it is possible to establish and consolidate an exemplary South-South cooperation free of any notion of alienating dependence.

Comrade ministers, dear comrades, I am sure we will succeed in our mission and that this success will help the continent to become more united for the good of us all. [end recording]

Concerning this quadripartite meeting, three commissions were set up for the deliberations. The first commission is to deal with political issues, that is the draft agreement on consultation and solidarity, and the setting up of a quadripartite commission for cooperation. The second commission is to deal with economic issues, that is the projects planned during the recent meeting held last 7 and 8 January, the creation of a common investment bank, and the setting up of common enterprises in the field of road and air transport. As for the third commission, it is to deal with mutual assistance in the domestic security field.

Meeting Ends 'Prematurely'
AB280725 Paris AFP in English 0712 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Ouagadougou, April 28 (AFP) — A meeting between the heads of state of Burkina Faso, Benin, Ghana and Libyan deputy leader Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud ended prematurely here Saturday after only a few hours after reportedly bitter criticism of Libya for its aid policies.

Officially, the meeting agreed to "step up economic cooperation" between the four left-leaning countries and discussed host-state Burkina Faso's drought-induced economic crisis.

A final communique did not say whether recommendations of a preparatory meeting Friday of foreign ministers — for a cooperation pact, a quadripartite joint commission, a joint investment bank and joint transport bodies — had been accepted. The summit was not due to end until this morning, but it was overshadowed by the reported strong criticism of Libya at the ministerial meeting.

The summit, which had been kept secret until the last minute, was originally to have been attended by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi but Maj Jallud said he had been kept in Libya because his father had fallen ill. Sources said that after the sharp criticism of Libya at the ministerial meeting for the way it gave aid to the other three, some participants walked out, preventing a closing session from being held or a final statement being published.

Apart (?from Maj Jallud), the summit brought together Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso, Jerry Rawlings of Ghana and Mathieu Kerekou of Benin.

Libyan Representative Remarks
AB281150 Accra Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] A day's summit by the leaders of four African countries, has ended in Ouagadougou, capital of Burkina Faso. The meeting was attended by the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, President Mathieu Kerekou of Benin, Captain Thomas Sankara, leader of the Burkina Faso's Revolutionary Council, and Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, a member of the guide of the Great September Revolution in Libya who represented Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi [sentence as heard]. The aim was to give further meaning to the friendship between them and help to create machinery for solving their problems.

In a communique, they decided to pool their resources for their economic development and the welfare of their peoples. The communique said the leaders also reviewed a number of world problems, including the situation in southern Africa, Chad, Western Sahara, and the Middle East. On southern Africa, they denounced the obnoxious system of apartheid and condemned the imperialist powers which cooperate with and support that regime. They reaffirmed their support and solidarity with the freedom fighters in Namibia. The four countries agreed to form a road transportation company.

Earlier, Flight Lt Rawlings, Captain Sankara, President Kerekou, and Maj Jallud had attended a rally at the People's House.

In an address, Capt Sankara said if Africa would come together as one people, there would be no situation they cannot overcome. He urged the four countries to organize together their economies, finance and army. This is the only means by which they can talk of unity. Captain Sankara described the economic and military cooperation between Ghana and Upper Volta [as heard] as a move in the right direction. He called on the four countries to see themselves as a nucleus of the right kind of unity.

On his part, Maj Jallud urged African countries to unite and fight the forces of imperialism. He said the destiny of Africa is in the hands of Africans themselves and they must not expect that others will develop their continent for them. Maj Jallud called for a cultural revolution to free the continent from what he called cultural slavery.

Representatives of Burkina Faso's National Revolutionary Council and the students' movement expressed solidarity with the attempts by the four countries to bring their peoples together and fight against apartheid, imperialism and racial domination. The PNDC chairman has since returned home.

Summit Communique

AB280826 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] The quadripartite summit, grouping the heads of state of Benin, Ghana, Burkina, as well as the representative of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of Libya, ended late yesterday evening.

Presidents Rawlings, Kerekou, and Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, who arrived in Ouagadougou yesterday morning, spent several hours on examining before adopting the various dossiers prepared on Friday by the foreign ministers of the four countries. It will be recalled that the dossiers concerned political, economic, and security issues. During their talks, the three heads of state and the representative of the Libyan president, also reviewed the African and international situation. Before the departure of Presidents Kerekou and Rawlings, a final communique was issued. It is read here by Comrade Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, commander-in-chief of the High Command of the National Armed Forces:

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] the heads of state of the People's Republic of Benin, the Republic of Ghana, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and of Burkina Faso met on 27 April 1985 in Ouagadougou. Upon their arrival at the Ouagadougou International Airport, Presidents Mathieu Kerekou, Jerry John Rawlings, and Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, representing Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, were welcomed by President Thomas Sankara with whom were members of the National Council for the Revolution, the revolutionary government, and the diplomatic corps accredited to Ouagadougou. The militant people of Kadiogo also gave a warm and revolutionary welcome to our illustrious guests and the delegations accompanying them.

During their talks, the heads of state of Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Brother Jallud, representing Col al-Qadhdhafi, defined the framework of their meeting. To this end, ...ey agreed to set up the foundations for broad cooperation and to strengthen understanding between their peoples.

To this end, the heads of the revolutionary states and governments and brother Jallud, representing Col al-Qadhdhafi, (?discussed) problems connected with the world economic crisis and in particular the baneful effects of the drought in Burkina Faso. They agreed to carry out an exchange of views among themselves in order to harmonize their stand on current burning issues and in particular to strengthen their economic cooperation. The heads of the revolutionary states and governments later carried out an extensive review of world issues.

On African issues, the heads of revolutionary states and governments and Brother Jallud, representing Col al-Qadhdhafi, denounced the abominable apartheid system and condemned the imperialist powers which cooperate with and support this shameful regime. The heads of state and government of the four countries expressed their support for the OAU decisions concerning the just and lasting settlement of the Western Sahara conflict. On Namibia, they reaffirmed their revolutionary solidarity with the freedom fighters whose sole representative is the SWAPO. On Chad, the heads of state and government support the OAU resolutions and call on all the Chadian factions to ensure their implementation. The heads of revolutionary states and governments and brother Jallud, representing Col Al-Qadhdafi, also expressed their total support for the decisions of the ministerial conference of member countries of the Nonaligned Movement which took place in New Delhi from 19 to 21 April 1985, concerning its condemnation of the setting up of a so-called provisional transitional government in Namibia. They reaffirmed their support for the decisions of the OAU and the Nonaligned Movement to call for a UN Security Council meeting to discuss this issue. The heads of revolutionary states and governments and Brother Jallud, representing Col Al-Qadhdhafi, examined the situation in the Middle East which is caused by the expansionist and aggressive policy of the Zionist state and its imperialists allies. They deplored the aggravation and the consequences of this situation on peace in that region and in the world. They reaffirmed their conviction that only the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from the occupied territories and the recognition of the (?legitimate) and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people will enable the achivement of a lasting peace in that part of the world. In the face of all these world problems, the heads of revolutionary states and governments and Brother Jallud, representing Col al-Qadhdhafi, believe that these problems are (?caused) by imperialism. Thus, they express their firm determination to do everything possible to resolutely fight imperialism anywhere it rears its head. At the end of the meeting, the heads of state of People's Republic of Benin, the Republic of Ghana, and Brother Jallud, representing Col al-Qadhdhafi, as well as the delegations accompanying them, expressed satisfaction over the atmosphere of friendship, fraternity, and frank cooperation that characterized the meeting. They expressed their sincere and deep feelings of gratitude to the Burkinabe people, their National Council of the Revolution, their president, and their revolutionary government, for the very warm welcome given them.

Issued in Ouagadougou on 27 April 1985. [end recording]

GHANA

Government Regrets Dismissal of Missionaries

AB261005 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The government has expressed regret at the decision by the Catholic Church to order Father Joop Valentin and Mr John Crawford to leave the areas where they have been working in the

Kumasi Diocese. According to an official statement, the government has decided to comment on this matter. This is because some members of the public have wrongly assumed that this decision was taken with the approval of the government, since both Father Valentin and Mr Crawford were signatories to a statement issued earlier this year which contained criticisms of government policy. The statement said the devoted work of these two men among the poor and disadvantaged people in Ashanti give them every right to express their personal views. It should therefore be made clear that the government does not support the decision of the church authority.

LIBERIA

Commitment to Multiparty System Reaffirmed

AB261008 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0655 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The chairman of the National Democratic Party of Liberia [NDPL], Kekwa Kpoto, has reemphasized the government's commitment to a multiparty system in the country during the ensuing elections scheduled for October this year. He said he is convinced that the Liberian people will never allow themselves to be ruled by a 1-party state again.

Chairman Kpoto made the remarks yesterday when he spoke with newsmen at his party headquarters in Sinkor.

Meanwhile according to Chairman Kpoto, the Special Elections Commission, Secom, has released the guidelines for the official campaigning period for the ensuing elections upon the request of the NDPL chairman. Secom has set 8 July as the official commencement of campaigning. The guidelines released by Secom also stipulates that the first week of July is considered as convention week to precede the official commencement of the campaign period.

Unification Party Chairmen on Demilitarization

AB261828 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The chairman of the proposed Liberia Unification Party [LUP], Gabriel Kpoleh, says that any person accused of crimes against the state should be tried by regular judicial courts in the country with the right to appeal to the Supreme Court. Mr Kpoleh suggested to government that all arrests and detentions be effected by the Liberian National Police and the National Security Agency without the assistance of any military personnel. The proposed LUP chairman also requested government to recall all soldiers from the counties, government ministries, and public corporations.

Mr Kpoleh was speaking in Monrovia yesterday, Thursday, when he presented [words indistinct] to the head of state CIC [commander in chief] Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, congratulating him for releasing from further detention four politicians who were recently implicated in a plot to assassinate the head of state.

NIGERIA

Sect Clashes With Police in Gombe, Bauchi

AB270708 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] There has been another religious uprising by members of the proscribed Maitatsine religious sect, this time in Gombe, Bauchi State. According to the police, the uprising started at about 0600 [0500 GMT] in the morning yesterday and by 3 o'clock in the afternoon the police had dislodged the stronghold of the fanatics. During the encounter, police casualties stood at three killed while six others were injured. Eight civilian casualties were also reported with many other people sustaining injuries. So far, 11 arrests have been made. As of last night, fighting had died down and the police had mounted intensive patrols of the affected areas.

The Maitatsine disturbances first erupted in Kano about 3 years ago. Hundreds of people were killed at that time and the sect was eventually proscribed. Similar incidents subsequently occured in several other parts of the country including Yola and Kaduna. Some of the dislodged fanatics later regrouped and threatened to strike in Lagos but they were quickly put on the run by security forces. The leader of the Maitatsine sect had been killed in the Kano disorder.

Over 100 Killed

AB281257 Lagos NAN in English 1245 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Gombe, (Bauchi), April 28 (NAN) — More than 100 persons have been reported killed in the Maitatsine religious uprising which started in Gombe, Bauchi State on Friday, a police source told a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) in Gombe yesterday.

The correspondent gathered that more than 30 corpses of those who were either beheaded or shot dead on Friday night by the fanatics were still lying in Herwa Gana Ward, one of the places the fanatics moved into when they were dislodged from their Pantami stronghold. The source further said that about 90 persons, suspected to be members of the sect, have been arrested.

The Bauchi military governor, Brig. Sani Sami, yesterday visited the scene of the riot.

The NAN correspondent, who was also at the scene, reports that while the governor and members of his entourage were going round the area, the fanatics opened fire injuring one policeman, while the press secretary to the governor, Malam Ladan Salihu, was slightly injured by a bullet shell.

Meanwhile, the Army who aided the police in patrolling the town in the afternoon yesterday, had surrounded the major points occupied by the fanatics by 7 p.m.

Curfew Imposed

AB290716 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] A dusk-to-dawn curfew has been imposed on Gombe town following the latest Maitatsine religious uprising in the area. The Bauchi State governor has therefore advised people in the affected area to stay in their homes between 1800 and 0600 in the morning. Governor Sani Sami has also ordered immediate relief operations for those affected by the disturbances. Government agencies involved in the operations are the State Ministry of Agriculture, the Essential Commodities Distribution Agency and the Gombe local government. In addition, the governor has directed the State Ministry of Health to reinforce the Gombe General Hospital with drugs and medical personnel to treat those who sustained injuries during the incident. Meanwhile, about 146 persons said to be members of the proscribed Maitatsine religious sect have been arrested in connection with the recent disturbances. Police said the arrests were made at road blocks and railway station when the fanatics attempted to escape.

Government Opens Borders for Repatriation

AB271330 Paris AFP in English 1256 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Lagos, April 27 (AFP) — Nigeria opened its land borders today to let out illegal immigrants who have been given until May 10 to leave the country, the director of Nigeria's Immigration Department, Muhammadu Damlak, said here.

Orders were sent to border posts yesterday and they should be open today, but Mr Damlak stressed that only illegal immigrants would be allowed to cross the border and the posts would be closed again as soon as the deadline expired. The dealine, announced on April 15, is believed to affect some 700,000 people, including an estimated 300,000 Ghanaians. An initial batch of about 1,000 Ghanaians left here by boat on Thursday.

Mr Damlak added that a bus service to the border would be set up to transport immigrants who lack sufficient funds to return home. He also announced that foreigners affected by the expulsion order would be able to buy plane tickets out of the country with Nigerian currency, the naira. Normally foreigners have to buy plane tickets in foreign currency because the naira is non-convertible.

Ghana's High Commission in Lagos has for several days been publishing meassages in the main Nigerian dailies urging its nationals to respect the expulsion order if they cannot regularise their situation in Nigeria. Meanwhile, there has been no official reaction to a Ghanaian request to delay the expulsion deadline until the end of May, though the reopening of Nigeria's land borders and relaxing of some currency regulations appear to be in response to demands for such measures by Accra.

Buhari Speaks on Need for Credible Defense Force

AB281315 Lagos NAN in English 1306 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Kaduna, April 28 (NAN) — The head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, yesterday in Kaduna declared that it was the intention of his administration, to build a credible mixed defence forces, capable of responding to any form of aggression.

In an address at the grand finale to mark the 21st anniversary celebration of the Air Force week Maj Gen Buhari said, "We live in a complex and unstable world where what was taken for granted yesterday is today potential cause of conflict." He said that Nigeria was facing very difficult times because "our acting to deal with our problems are too easily misunderstood and misinterpreted by those who fail to see our point of view and would hardly like to see us succeeed." "We believe in peace and peaceful coexistences and we are therefore determined to use every means available to revitalise the economy and to provide a basis for the orderly and harmonious development of the country," he said.

Maj Gen Buhari said "our intellectual and moral richness lie in our ability to handle crisis, both internal, and external without recourse to violence," adding "our extension of the right hand of fellowship and posture and good neighbourliness should, however, not be mistaken for a weakness on our part." He said that no modern war could be fought and won without airpower and that a modest modernization programme was in progress to acquire new weapon systems in a bid to build a balanced Air Force and to enhance its capabilities. Training schools, he said, were also being expanded and more facilities provided locally to train the much needed manpower.

Maj Gen Buhari said that because the nation lacked a strong industrial base to support the manufacture of the required defence hardware, it must continue to procure them from friendly countries abroad. He therefore called on the Air Force and other members of the Armed Forces to ensure judicious and effective management of available resources.

Yesterday's ceremony featured an air show, static display and visit to the Air Force technical training ground, at the Air Force Base in Kaduna. Present at the occasion were state governors, traditional rulers, visitors from foreign air forces, former heads of services, ministers and commissioners.

Army Personnel Reduced by 30,000 Since Coup

AB270924 Lagos NAN in English 0908 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Enugu, April 27 (NAN) — The chief of Army staff, Major General Ibrahim Babangida said in Enugu yesterday that the strength of the Nigerian Army had been reduced by about 30,000 since the inception of the present administration. Addressing newsmen, Major General Babangida said that most of the affected soldiers were discharged on grounds of medical disability while others were dismissed for disciplinary reasons adding that the on-going recruitment exercise into the Army was to replace part of the number. He said that the present strength of the Army was below 120,000 and that the number is less that 50 per cent of the strength of the service in 1970. The chief of Army staff said that delays in the payment of entitlements to ex-servicemen was "inevitable" because "we want to make sure that all loopholes for fraud are blocked".

TOGO

Discussions Held With Visiting CPC Delegation

AB261030 Lome Domestic Service in French
0615 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] A 5-member delegation of the Communist Party of China, led by Yang Haibo, arrived in Togo last Wednesday. Yesterday it held a working session with officials of the Rally of the Togolese People [RPT] led by the administrative secretary of the party, Yao Kunale Eklo. The meeting took place at the Party House in Lome. It permitted Mr Eklo to present to our guests a report on the history of Togo under German and French domination; Togo from 1960 to 1963, which was characterized by divisions among the various political parties; and the Togo of General Eyadema, who was called upon by the people to restore peace and national reconciliation. The people of Togo, united witnin the RPT since 1969, added Mr Eklo, continue to record economic, political, and social successes; and today, as is attested by all foreigners who visit Togo, our country's stability is exemplary and it is experiencing harmonious development. It has become a haven of peace where it is pleasant to live. For their part, the heads of the various wings of the RPT and the president of the National Movement of Togolese Students and Trainees spoke to our guests about the bodies that they head.

At the end of the various reports, the leader of the Chinese delegation, Yang Haibo, thanked the RPT leader for their brilliant reports which gave a deeper insight into the realities of Togo. He then spoke of the achievements of the CPC and its struggle for the economic, cultural and social development of China.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Addresses Party Planning Meeting

MB270930 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Speech by Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at the opening session of an "expanded meeting," in preparation for the second MPLA-Labor Party Congress in Luanda on 26 April -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrade leaders and officials of the party and government central apparatus, comrade coordinators of the party provincial committees, comrades:

On 8 February 1985, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee created the second party congress national preparatory commission, which includes members of the Central Committee and Secretariats of the Central Committee. This commission is involved in, among other things, organizing the general plan and the agenda for the preparation of the second congress, the internal rules of the congress, the draft documents for the congress, updating the program and statutes of the party, guiding and deciding on the creation of technical and material (?conditions) which are necessary for the normal functioning of the congress, supervising the planning of the assemblies and preparatory meetings of the congress, guiding the organization, and holding provincial conferences to study the party documents, as well as the election of delegates to the second congress and the selection of candidates to the Central Committee.

In order to accomplish these essential tasks, the national preparatory commission formed five specialized commissions which were divided into subcommissions and working groups. Thus, we have a candidates commission, an organization commission, a commission for the preparation of the Central Committee report and draft documents, a commission to assess the organizational and politico-ideological activities of the party, and a discipline and appellate commision. A commission to prepare for the main event was also created.

The national preparatory commission of the second congress is presided over by the party chairman, and each of the commissions is coordinated by a member of the national preparatory commission. The chairman of the national preparatory commission and the commission coordinators form the standing Secretariat of the second congress national preparatory commission. It deals with current issues and preparations for its meetings and decisions.

The national preparatory commission already has its internal rules, and has also drafted the rules dealing with the structure and performance of the congress' national preparatory commission at provincial and municipality levels.

The entire organizational structure that has been established is designed to ensure the global fulfillment of the tasks approved as scheduled so that the second congress may be held in December of this year. The central organs are presently preparing the fundamental documents, that is, reviewing the draft documents, the reading of which was made at the first national party congress in accordance with its recommendations. It is also drafting other draft documents that have been recommended by the party conference. The central organs are also studying ways of selecting delegates to the congress and candidates to the Central Committee. The documents will be submitted for approval at the next ordinary session of the Central Committee.

The objective of this first expanded meeting of leading cadres of the party and government central and provincial apparatus is, in brief, to present the rules and agenda of the party congress national preparatory commission, assess the summary of activities carried out by the national preparatory commission, study the rules governing the provincial preparatory commissions, and study the liaison between the national preparatory commission and the provincial commissions. It is therefore a methodological meeting of extreme importance so that we may strengthen the preparation of the congress, at the central, provincial, and municipality levels. Thus, it is our duty to assess the documents that have been prepared and which will be presented, and enrich them with proposals and suggestions. Afterward, we will see to their practical application, (?with preference) given to material and technical (?conditions) which will ensure the successful preparation and holding of the party second congress. This is closely linked to an important aspect of our activities, namely ensuring the full practice of internal democratic principles within the competent organs during the discussion of documents and problems and issues that concern the party. Such a discussion must be carried out in accordance with the statutes and rules of the party, while essentially complying with the principle of criticism and constructive self-criticism, and the need for a continuous strengthening of internal cohesion and the unity of the party.

A number of party members hae expressed this need to the central organs. We still lack sufficiently active mechanisms to provide internal information so that the central organs can detect the views of party members, thus making use of valid ideas and proposals to strengthen party action at all levels.

The extraordinary congress of the party was unique, therefore, it could not fully accomplish the aim of wider debate within the party organs regarding the various problems that concern the internal life of the party and society as a whole. We think that the preparatory work and the holding of the second ordinary congress of the party will create an excellent occasion for healthy debate and an exchange of ideas on the most burning issues affecting the development of our party and revolution, thus enabling us to become more effective in our actions against imperialism, neocolonialism, and their satellites.

By creating conditions which will enable open, frank, and honest discussion of our problems, the problems of the party, and the problems of the Angolan nation by creatively applying the principles of our revolutionary doctrine in search of the most solutions adaptable at every phase, stage, and period of our struggle, we shall be more effective in our actions, enabling us to carry out the necessary progressive changes in our society on the path to socialism. This entails, in the first place, the strengthening of the leading role of our party in all spheres of our life, the effective implantation of the people's democracy -- that means the effective exercise of power by the masses, particularly peasants and

workers — and obviously the creation of conditions that will make the building of socialism in Angola the task of all the people.

We are presently experiencing a particularly difficult period as imperialist forces persist in their hopes of destroying the gains of the Angolan people and neutralizing the MPLA-Labor Party. This means, therefore, that the heightening of vigilance during the entire period of the preparation for the congress, and indeed during the holding of the congress itself, is extremely important. The enemy will not cease trying to carry out acts of provocation in order to prevent us from carrying out our objectives. He will try to disorient party leaders and the masses through confusion and political intrigue by launching, as it has always been the case, biased propaganda campaigns through the Western news agencies and through the puppets — UNITA, the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave, FNLA, and others. We must, therefore, be vigilant at all times to neutralize all these possible enemy maneuvers.

Our party militants have achieved a high class awareness. In general, they have a high level of political maturity. The party, therefore, possesses cadres who are capable of interpreting its guidelines. Accordingly, I think that we can optimistically face all the work we are going to undertake from now until the holding of the second party ordinary congress. I should like to extend to all comrades present here the best of success during the proceedings of this first expanded meeting. I hope that you will instill dynamism into the preparatory work of the congress from Cabinda to Cunene to enable us to effectively carry out all the objectives of our party leadership and make the period after the congress — that is between 1985 and 1990 — a period for the revitalization of party action and the people's democratic revolution, thus accelerating the ongoing process of socialist revolution. Once again, I wish the comrades all the best in your work.

RSA Accused of Causing Tension in South
MB281212 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Angola has accused South Africa of causing tension in the south of the country 12 days after South African forces have withdrawn from southern Angola. According to the official Angolan news agency, ANGOP, the tension is being caused by soldiers at Calueque and Ruacana and along the South-West African border.

On Pretoria, a defense force spokesman has said he has nothing to add to previous statements by the Department of Foreign Affairs and the chief of the defense force.

KUP: UNITA Shoots Down Helicopter in Uige
MB290715 (Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa 1200 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 28 Apr (KUP) — UNITA antiaircraft artillery have shot down a MI-8 helicopter carrying out a reconnaissance mission over Quitexe, 37 km southwest of Negage, in Uige Province. This was disclosed by Chief of General Staff Brigadier Alberto Jaquim Vinama Chendovava on the weekend. He added that during 3 days of fighting in Malanje, Uige, and Bie provinces, UNITA took Kahombo village, 27 km north of Brito Godins, after a 80-minute battle.

A total of 75 MPLA soldiers and 3 Cuban mercenaries died, 1 helicopter was shot down, 5 trucks full of food supplies were destroyed, 3 fuel tanks set on fire, and 93 weapons and more than 12,000 ammunition rounds captured. Three MPLA soldiers were captured. During the same period, UNITA lost 3 of its men and suffered 11 wounded.

MOZAMBIQUE

National Resistance Members Kill 40 in Maputo
MB261859 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Forty people, mostly civilians, were killed last Saturday when MNR terorists attacked a remote rural settlement in Maputo Province in southern Mozambique. A spokesman at Maputo Central Hospital today said seven survivors suffering from bullet wounds had arrived at the hospital last weekend. The survivors gave details of the massacre. They said the terrorists arrived at their settlement in the Beluluane area, some 30 km west of Maputo city, just after midnight last Saturday morning. They began the attack with fire from mortars, bazookas, and heavy machineguns and later the terrorists entered the settlement and hacked people to death with pangas. After entering the settlement, according to the survivors, the terrorists identified themselves as members of the MNR and said they will destroy all what they called were President Samora Machel's villages. Two of the dead were part-time militiamen and one was a soldier who has been on guard duty at the time because of previous MNR activity in the area. The other 37 victims were civilians.

NAMIBIA

National Party Nominates Cabinet Representative
MB261823 Windhoek Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The National Party's [NP] present representative in the Multiparty Conference, Advocate Eben van Zyl, has been nominated to represent the party in the cabinet of the proposed central government.

In a statment issued in Windhoek, Mr Koos Pretorius, the leader of the NP and chairman of the white executive committee, says he is not available at this stage for any position in the proposed government and that he will continue in his present position. According to the statement, the executive of the NP has decided to empower Mr Pretorius to take care of the party's nominations in the cabinet, national assembly, and constitutional council, in consultation with the executive of the party. Mr Pretorius says other nominations will be announced at the appropriate time.

Mortar Attack on Town Near Angolan Border

MB261827 Windhoek Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] A mortar attack was made this morning at about 0400 on the town of Ruacana, on the Angolan border. According to reports, about eight bombs fell on the town but no fatalities were recorded. The extent of the damage has not yet been estimated.

SOUTH AFRICA

Miners Strike, Clash With Police in Stilfontein

MB261258 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1202 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Pretoria, April 26, SAPA — A man died and another was injured early today at the Hartbeesfontein mine at Stilfontein in the western Transvaal, police report, after 3,000 miners gathered and refused to disperse.

A situation report said police used tearsmoke, rubber bullets and birdshot at 3 am to disperse them, but added the death had not been due to police action and police were investigating.

An Anglovaal spokesman told SAPA there had been "an accidental death" in the No 7 shaft area of Haartbeesfontein overnight — a man was "impaled" when he jumped over a fence. But, he added, there had been "no rioting."

The police report said a woman was uninjured and arrested for public violence in Alicedale this morning after crowds stoned a policeman's home. Police fired shotguns to disperse the mob of about 400.

The arrest follows an earlier report that a man was arrested after a policeman's home was stoned. Three other houses were "extensively damaged" by stone-throwing groups.

In Tanje township, Grahamstown, 25 people set fire to and destroyed a delivery vehicle, while in Kroonstads Secisoville Township, police used tearsmoke to disperse an "illegal gathering."

Police Statement

MB261651 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1633 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Pretoria, April 26, SAPA — A statement issued tonight by the Police Public Relations Division on the situation at the Harbeesfontein mine at Stilfontein, said the number of blacks involved in the incident early this morning had been 500, and not 3000 as reported in the earlier police statement. The incident, it added, had not occurred inside the mine property but outside, near a trading store.

The police, the statement added, were not summoned by the mining authorities, but had acted to disperse an illegal gathering.

Miners Paid Off After Strike

MB280622 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] In a statement issued to SAPA the Anglo-American Corporation says that about 13,000 black mineworkers are being paid off at the south division of the Vaal Reefs gold mine near Klerksdorp this weekend after illegal strike action on Friday evening and yesterday.

The corporation says in its statement that over the past week its management has made strenuous efforts to maintain normal operations in the face of work stoppages, incitement, and intimidation by what it calls irresponsible elements seeking to create a climate of disorder and unrest.

It says the mine management has held ongoing discussions with the National Union of Mineworkers to resolve a number of grievances. However, intimidation and work stoppages have continued.

A spokesman for the Vaal Reefs mine has told our economics news staff that a gathering of mineworkers at the nearby store earlier this week had nothing to do with the strike. Police had to take action to disperse what they regarded as an illegal gathering.

At the Hartbeesfontein mine near Stilfontein conditions are back to normal after about 2,000 mineworkers went on strike on Thursday and Friday and were dismissed because the company also regarded the strike as illegal.

Mass Funerals Held for 'Victims of Unrest'

MB271244 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1230 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Port Elizabeth, April 27, SAPA — Large crowds of mourners were attracted to two mass funerals at Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage today. A total of 25 victims of the unrest were buried after funeral services in sports stadiums in Zwide, Port Elizabeth, and Kwanobuhle, Uitenhage.

The bigger of the two funerals was at the Dan Qeqe stadium in Zwide where 15 unrest victims were to have been buried and where a crowd estimated at about 50,000 were present.

Addressing the mourners the Reverend Michael Mjekula, the master of ceremonies, said people were surprised when the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said he was only prepared to speak to church leaders on spiritual matters and not politics when the Bible itself was political.

Reverend D. Soga, president of Idemisa [Interdenominatinal Ministers' Association of South Africa], gave a report on the meeting his association and other bodies held with the divisional commissioner of police in the eastern Cape, brigadier C.A. Swart, in Port Elizabeth yesterday. He appealed to youths to remain calm and give dignity to the funeral of their 15 "comrades". He said that on returning to their homes after the burial they should not gather in groups and avoid giving the police and South African Defence Force the chance to take action against

them or give rise to claims that they had been provoked by crowds. Rev Soga said he wished to remind all those who lived "by the gun" that as the Bible said "they will die by the same weapon".

He appealed, on behalf of Idemisa, to all authentic black organisations representing the people with a common goal to freedom not to allow their different ideologies to interfere in the common cause and thus divide them.

At lunchtime the crowd was estimated at 50,000 and was swelled by people coming from long distances in trucks and buses and those returning from shopping.

Police kept a low profile and there were no police vehicles visible in the immediate vicinity. There was a large contingent of South African and overseas media with several foreign television crews present. Speeches were punctuated by freedom songs and church hymns. By 1205 the last of the 15 coffins had arrived at the stadium.

At Kwanobuhle, where 10 victims were to have been buried, an estimated 8000 people flocked to the Kwanobuhle sports stadium, where two weeks ago the mass funeral of 26 unrest victims was held. Amongst the 26 buried then were 20 victims of the Langa shootings. An estimated 50,000 to 60,000 people were present then and mounters were addressed by Dr Allan Boesak and Bishop Desmond Tutu.

The funeral service at Kwanobuhle was peaceful and no incidents were reported.

The police and South African Defence Force, who were present in force, kept a low profile and did not enter the township. Thre was also a large police presence along the highway between Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage with a number of caspirs patrolling the outskirts of the black townships.

Unconfirmed reports stated that only eight of the 10 bodies due to have been buried in Kwanobuhle had been released by the police and only eight coffins were counted in the funeral procession. One of the speakers read a personal message from the jailed African National Congress leader, Nelson Mandela.

Unrest, Rioting in Eastern Cape Continue

MB270950 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0734 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Pretoria, April 27, SAPA — One man died and three people were injured when a policeman fired at a crowd stoning his home in one of at least five eastern Cape townships where rioting flared through the night, according to police in Pretoria.

In Alicedale, near Port Elizabeth, 28 people were arrested on charges of public violence after a policeman's home was attacked earlier yesterday, a police spokesman said today.

The spokesman said about 500 people in the Cradock Township of Lingililhe were on their way to the home of a man who died in rioting last week when they attacked the home of a policeman. The policeman fired his shotgun, killing one person and slightly injuring three others, the spokesman said.

Police and troop patrols in New Brighton and Fingo, near Grahamstown, reported extinguishing fires at two schools which had been set alight by rioters.

The spokesman said rubber bullets were fired at a crowd stoning a defence force patrol in Kwazakele, while in Galeshewe, near Kimberley, a policeman travelling on a bus fired shots at about 50 people stoning the vehicle.

Police in the northern Natal town of Empangeni arrested a black man who was among a large group who were stoning vehicles, the spokesman said.

Botha Rejects Slabbert Offer on Negotiation

MB261807 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1732 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Cape Town, April 26, SAPA — The state president, Mr P.W Botha, has rejected an offer by the leader of the opposition, Dr van zyl Slabbert, to mediate in talks between the South African Government and the banned African National Congress.

"I cannot accept that, because I cannot allow anyone to talk on my behalf to an organisation supporting violence, just as I am not prepared to talk to any organisation supporting violence," Mr Botha said in a statement released in Cape Town tonight.

Reiterating his offer to all political leaders who renounced violence to join a forum for discussion on the constitutional future of non-homeland blacks, Mr Botha said:

"I now appeal to all South Africans who oppose violence to strengthen the hand of the government in order to ensure orderly government and economic prosperity for our country."

The state president said he had made it very clear that he was prepared to talk to people and organisations who rejected violence.

"I made it very clear that I am prepared to talk to everyone who seeks political development in South Africa in an evolutionary way. The ANC is a tool of Soviet Russia. I said in parliament that in the end it doesnt really matter whether or not the SA Communist Party or the ANC will be the dominating factor.

"I refer to the admission by Joe Slovo that the ANC has over the years received considerable support from the Soviet Union and that the Communist Party similarly occupies a cherished and unique position within the ANC.

"The ANC has in turn infiltrated the UDF [United Democratic Front] in various ways. They influence each other to overthrow the government by means of violence, to establish a dictatorship and to abolish and replace the SADF and the police force with forces of their own.

"According to their own admission their present strategy is to make the country ungovernable.

"Yesterday I learned that the leader of the official opposition wants to act as mediator.

"I cannot accept that because I cannot allow anyone to talk on my behalf to an organisation supporting violence, just as I am not prepared to talk to an organisation supporting violence.

"I accept that the leader of the opposition will equally distance himself from the idea of negotiation with the Communist Party or the ANC and the UDF under such circumstances.

"The offer made to the leaders in parliament during discussion of my budget still stands. I now appeal to all South Africans who oppose violence to strengthen the hand of the government in order to ensure orderly government and economic prosperity for our country."

ANC Statement Outlines Task for Future

MB261448 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The ANC's top body, the Executive Committee, has issued a statement analyzing current unrest in South Africa. The committee has also outlined its task for the future. Howard Barrell reports.

[Barrell] The statement is seen as an important intervention by the ANC, at a time when the government is accusing the outlawed movement's underground machinery of being behind the current unrest. The ANC executive notes that the South African struggle has reached a new phase. On the side of the people, says the ANC, the conditions for a revolutionary leap forward are beginning to mature. On the side of the ruling class, the economic and political crisis has reached new heights.

The ANC statement pursues the same central theme of which it stands accused by President Botha, namely, trying to make the country ungovernable by destroying black local authorities, conducting worker stay-aways, and attacking central government institutions. This same theme is being put across in all major ANC statements since January 1984, but the significance of today's statement lies in the ANC's confident assertion of its leadership.

CITY PRESS on ANC

MB281138 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English 28 Apr 85 p 1

[By Howard Barrel]

[Text] Harare — The African National Congress says it stands by its pre-conditions for talks with the South African Government. These preconditions are:

— The unconditional release of all political prisoners.

— The unconditional return of all exiles.

— That ANC-Government talks must be based on an agreement that apartheid should be completely dismantled.

— That the entire democratic leadership of South Africa agree to such talks.

The ANC restated these preconditions in response to a *WASHINGTON POST* report this week which misinterpreted a statement by ANC president Oliver Tambo.

THE WASHINGTON POST claimed Mr Tambo had dropped the preconditions for talks.

The ANC said *THE WASHINGTON POST* had misinterpreted Mr Tambo.

Meanwhile, the ANC national Executive Committee has issued a major statement analysing the current climate to revolt in some ares of the country.

The long statement, issued from Lusaka, says conditions in South Africa are maturing for a "revolutionary leap forward".

The country's rulers are affected by an increasing "economic and political crisis".

Last week President P.W. Botha blamed the ANC for the unrest and accused it of trying to make the country ungovernable through worker stayaways, attacking black local councils and other state institutes and officials, and trying to create politically liberated black zones.

The ANC statement, released on Friday, confirms Mr Botha's view.

Viljoen Agrees To Meet Crossroads Squatters

MB260833 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The South African minister of cooperation, development, and training, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, has agreed to meet representatives of two groups of squatters who have refused to move from the Crossroads camp near Cape Town to the new town of Khayelitsha, about 40 km east of Cape Town. The chief commissioner of cooperation and development in the western Cape region, Mr Timo Bezuindenhoud, told Radio RSA's Cape Town news staff that he had assured the squatters that he had passed their requests on to Dr Viljoen. Mr Bezuidenhoud said the minister would meet the squatters' representatives as soon as possible.

Kannemeyer Commission Hears Police Report

MB261359 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] A police officer has told the inquiry into the shootings at Uitenhage in South Africa last month that the tactics of the

people responsible for the unrest in the area showed that they were prepared to go much further than those involved in the 1976 riots.

Captain Roy (Hannendale) testified that policemen's homes had been set ablaze by rioters; while policemen themselves have been attacked and severly beaten. He said this was evidence of the new trend. Captain (Hannendale) said he had only recently arrived in the eastern Cape. He could not comment on a suggestion that by the time of the incident, police had begun to feel that stronger measures needed to be taken to counter the unrest.

Progressive Party Member on U.S. Disinvestment

MB261710 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1600 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Progressive Federal Party Member of Parliament Horace van Rensburg has returned from the United States with a warning that the disinvestment campaign against South Africa is far better orchestrated than most people realize.

On arrival in Cape Town he called for an equally coordinated drive to blunt its effects.

[Begin recording] The government is doing as much as it can at this stage in terms of the campaign in America. In South Africa it is up to the private sector to organize a well-coordinated, well-financed, well-organized, professionally organized campaign to mobilize all the persons and organizations in South Africa and in America in order to put the true facts across in order to out them in perspective in order to point to Americans that whereas there are many injustices in our society, we are making progress in moving away from injustice toward a just society. I believe that that is largely the responsibility of the private sector in South Africa. [end recording]

DIE TRANSVALER on Shultz' Press Club Address

MB270639 Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 18 Apr 85

[Editorial: "What About Nkomati?"]

[Text] For South Africa, there are decidedly welcome sounds and positive aspects to the policy address by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz night before last to the influential Washington Press Club. Indeed, this is the first time that recognition has been given at this level to the changes with which the South African government is busy creating a less tense climate among the people of the country.

South Africa obviously values all aspects of the idea which, hopefully, will contribute towards placating the groups which are so feverishly working for disinvestment in the republic. Together with the declarations by large American concerns such as General Motors earlier this week that they have no intention of withdrawing their investments in South Africa, Mr Shultz's statement certainly strengthens the climate of opposition to the disinvestment campaign.

What we miss in Mr Shultz' address is recognition for the South African initiatives aimed at bringing about a more stable southern Africa. He had not one word to say about an important breakthrough like the Nkomati Accord, nor about South Africa's costly, years-long negotiations to bring independence to South-West Africa.

Which makes this paper suspect that Mr Shultz is more concerned about reform of South Africa's internal policies than about stability at this important southern point of Africa.

This country is only too aware that stability goes hand in hand with adjustments to internal policy, which would ensure the peaceful coexistence of the people here. America and the West should not get the impression that the reforms now taking place are being brought about to please them. They are in our own interests.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Swears In New Party, Government Leaders

MB261148 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, today swore in seven leaders who were ushered into the party and its government, and urged them to go flat out and work hard.

Speaking at the swearing-in ceremony, which was held at State House, Dr Kaunda said Zambia's philosophy of humanism teaches that God made man in his own image, and gave him brains which are not used selfishly, but to serve God and other men to the best of one's ability.

The new appointees that were sworn in are former Secretary of State for Defense and Security Grey Zulu, who is now party secretary general; the former minister of general education, Mr Kebby Mosokotwane, who was sworn in as prime minister; Mr Alex Shapi, who was former chairman of the Social and Cultural Subcommittee, who was sworn in as secretary of state for defense and security.

Others were Defense Minister General Malimba Masheke, Zambia Army Commander Major General Christopher Tembo, Lusaka Urban District Governor Michael Sata, and Lusaka Rural Governor Francis Matanda.

Kaunda Orders 'Total War' on Criminals

MB261843 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Security forces have been directed to wage total war on criminals, who have found a livelihood through criminal activities and making life difficult for the people. Officially closing the 4-day third Zambia Defense Force Participatory Democracy Seminar at Mulungushi Hall today, President Kaunda said as president he would not accept a situation where Zambians failed to move either by car or on foot.

He said that he wants the people of Zambia to move freely, adding that so far the country has lost a number of people and property through banditry — a situation, he said, much too horrific.

Dr Kaunda said it was erroneously believed in some circles that the criminals had virtually taken over the country because of the daring manner in which they carried out evil activities, but assured that freedom of the people and their confidence could not be mortgaged to bandits, and that all means shall be employed to ensure maximum security.

Kaunda Celebrates Birthday, Lauds Armed Forces
MB281229 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda has paid special tribute to the country's defense and security forces for being loyal to the nation and for working hard despite operating under difficult conditions.

Speaking at a march and flypast parade at Lusaka's [word indistinct] stadium to mark his 61st birthday, Dr Kaunda said defense and security forces were adversely affected by a lack of facilities due to inadequate funding. He sympathized with the servicemen and pointed out that he understood that they required adequate facilities to enable them to operate effectively.

The president assured them that their lot and that of the rest of the nation will be improved once funds became available, but in the meantime he urged them to continue working hard.

The president, who was accompanied by the party secretary general, Mr Grey Zulu, the prime minister, Mr Kebby Musokotwane, and the secretary of state for defense and security, Mr Alex Shapi, said he had succeeded in leading the nation because of the support he received from Zambians.

Kaunda Urges Vigilance
MB290655 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, has called on party committees at places of work to be more vigilant in the detection of corruption and other shady deals to supplement the work of the intelligence and the police.

Speaking in a special Sunday interview last night to mark his 61st birthday, the president said people should not assume that he knew all what leaders in the party or government were doing, but added that party committees were the best watch-dogs of the people.

The president, who was interviewed by heads of the mass media, said a war must be waged to strengthen then leadership code and to ensure that civil servants followed the general orders. He said he was ready to admit publicly that the code has been neglected and that there was need also to strengthen the anticorruption commission. Dr Kaunda promised that he would always protect the voice of the people, as long as he enjoyed their mandate, by flushing out corrupt leaders.

He revealed that he had received a report that in one of the three institutions whose top executives he had sent on leave, a member of the Central Committee and one of two Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation management officials were helped to do something wrong. The president said if this is proved to be true he will act, because there is no way he can live with such a thing.